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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., addressed to COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the family.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY: Per Year, ($2 issued), $1 75; in Clubs of Twenty and over, $1 25, postage paid; one copy gratis to the getter up of the Club. All money must always accompany the Order, or no Postmaster can have forms to distribute from. Postmasters are requested to act as Agents.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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VOL. XII. PITTSBURGH, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 27, 1875. NO. 120.

BUSINESS OF PITTSBURGH FOR 1874!

The COMMERCIAL of WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3d, will contain the Sixth Annual Review of the Business of Pittsburgh, in the following Leading Departments:

RECEIPTS OF PIG IRON, IRON ORE AND BLOOMS, with Comparative Tables of the preceding Four Years.

RECEIPTS OF IRON MOUNTAIN AND LAKE SUPERIOR ORES.

PRICES CURRENT of Bituminous Coal Smelted Pig Iron and Anthracite Pig Iron.

NUMBER OF BLAST FURNACES in Pittsburgh and Vicinity, with their capacity.

RECEIPTS OF COAL AND COKE, by Monongahela Slackwater, from 1844 to date; Also, Shipments of Coal and Coke by River and Receipts by Rail.

STATISTICS OF THE OIL TRADE for the past Fourteen Years, with Weekly Price Current of Crude and Refined Oil for the last Five Years.

RECEIPTS OF THE LEADING ARTICLES OF PRODUCE, for Four Years Past, including Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Rye, Barley, Appies, Cheese, Bacon, Butter, etc., etc.

RAIN RECEIPTS at the Pittsburgh Elevator for the past Four Years.

The Statistics of the Iron, Coal, Coke and Oil Trades are Complete and Reliable, and the Tables of Comparison show the wonderful growth and development during the past few years.

The Prices Current for Crude and Refined Oils, are made up from Actual Sales, and will be found useful for those engaged in the respective branches.

Every Business Man should have these Valuable Statistics for reference. An Extra Edition will be printed, but those who desire copies of the Paper should leave their orders at the Counting Room, on or before MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1st.

☞ Orders by Mail will be Attended to.

FIRST EDITION.

XLIII. CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 26, 1875.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate a message from the President transmitting a report of the Commissioner of Education appointed in compliance with a resolution of June 22, 1874, to investigate and report a permanent plan for the reclamation of the lower basin of the Mississippi. Referred to the Committee on Transportation Routes to the Seaboard.

He ordered that ten thousand extra copies be printed.

After the introduction of a number of bills and petitions, business on the calendar was taken up and the following bills were disposed of:

A Senate bill to facilitate the disposition of cases in the Supreme Court of the United States, and for other purposes. Passed.

The House bill to amend the twenty-third paragraph of section three, of an act to regulate fees and costs to be allowed marshals and attorneys of the Circuit Courts approved February 26, 1853. Passed.

A bill to wind up the affairs of the Freedmen's Savings and Trust Company, with one Commissioner instead of three, as reported and discussed, but went over without action.

Mr. SCOTT, from the Committee on Finance, reported, with amendment, the bill to amend the National bank act, fixing a compensation of the National Bank Examiner. The amendment provides that persons appointed to make examination of national banks in redemption cities, shall receive such remuneration as may be fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury, upon the recommendation of the Comptroller of the Currency. Placed on the calendar.

Mr. EDMUNDS introduced a bill to provide for and regulate the counting of votes for President and Vice President. It provides that from three to ten days next before the last Monday in January in the year following any election for President or Vice President, the Senate shall appoint four Senators, and the House of Representatives five of its members, and such nine persons shall constitute a Committee upon the Elections of President and Vice President. A majority of said committee shall be a quorum, and the concurrence of a majority shall be necessary in any action thereof. Each member of the committee shall take a special oath to perform the duties imposed upon him by the provisions of this bill. The Senate and House are required to meet together in the hall of the House at one o'clock on the said last Monday of January, and meet daily, Sunday excepted, until the duties hereinafter specified are performed. The President of the Senate shall preside and open all certificates and papers purporting to be certificates of votes for President or Vice President, and after so opening them the papers shall all be delivered to the committee above provided for, who shall proceed to examine them and report in writing, as soon as possible, the state of the votes and what persons, if any, have been, pursuant to law, elected President or Vice President. If, when any question is raised by any Senator or member of the House touching the legal validity of any vote or proceeding of the committee, the two Houses shall consider the question separately and, if they concur, their judgment shall stand and the report of the committee shall be ordered accordingly; but if the two Houses do not concur, then the report of the committee shall stand and the persons therein declared elected shall respectively be deemed *prima facie* and are entitled to exercise the functions of their offices, subject to any contest made in due course of law. Referred.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the resolution of Mr. Schurz instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire what legislation by Congress is necessary to secure to the people of Louisiana the rights of self-government under the Constitution.

Mr. PEASE continued his argument commenced yesterday. He spoke of the lawlessness existing throughout the South, and said that during the late canvass in Georgia, the distinguished Senator from that State (Gordon) made a speech in Macon county, and he (Pease) had been informed by an honorable gentleman that the Senator, during that speech, said: "I suppose there is not a white Republican in this county. If there is I want the good people of Macon county to drive him out and not permit him to live here." He (Pease) was informed of this by Jack Brown, a man of character who belonged to the first families in Georgia, and he held as responsible as a gentleman and a man. Continuing his argument, he said the school houses had been burned in Mississippi, and that the number of crimes in other States was great. In almost every case where the treasury of a Southern State had been plundered, it had been done by Democrats. A Democrat was in the scheme one way. The prospect of a Democratic victory in 1876 had done more to paralyze the industries of the South than anything which ever happened. Many people of that section knew and felt that a Democratic victory would ruin them. He would say to his Southern Democratic friends not to count too strongly upon the assistance of Northern Democrats. They would find that the Democrats of the North would be running away from them, as they did in 1861. They would support the flag and put down the revolutionary enterprise in Mississippi. The Republican party had reconstructed the public buildings and advanced the interests of the State in every way. Every dollar of the State debt could be paid in two years. South Carolina, Louisiana and Mississippi were all improving. South Carolina had a better government to-day than ever before, and what was true of that State was true of Louisiana and Mississippi. There had been a system of reform inaugurated which was beneficial to those States. In conclusion, he referred to the argument of the Senator from Ohio (Thurman) and called upon that Senator, as a leader of the Democratic party, to say to the Democrats in the South that outrages must be stopped.

Mr. THURMAN said that on the 18th of January, 1871, in a speech in the Senate, he condemned anything like violence and said that every outrage of the kind complained of in the South was only an injury to the party to which he belonged; and if his voice could reach every man in the South who violated law, and have a potential influence with him, it would be addressed to him in three simple words: "Obey the law." Nothing was to be gained by outrage. Those were his words four years ago, for which the then Senator from Alabama, Mr. Warner, expressed upon this floor his thanks and characterized his (Thurman's) words as brave and useful words for which he (Warner) honored him. If there were outrages in the South, it was not the fault of the Democratic party on this floor or in the other House of Congress. The picture of Southern society was not to be drawn by clippings from newspapers. If *ad nauseam* clippings were to be taken as a picture of society, there might be a picture of Northern society drawn in that way which would make any man living north of the Potomac river shudder. History was not to be made in that way, and it was a poor service for any man to do his country to stand up here as the herald and compiler of all these acts which find recital on hearsay in the daily press of the country. The record made in this Senate was not to be the great *Police Gazette* of the nation. The great question now engaging the Senate could not be observed by all the clippings from newspapers that industry could possibly collect.

Before the conclusion of Mr. Thurman's argument, the Senate went into executive session and soon after adjourned.

HOUSE.

A bill to pay the February interest of the 3.65 bonds of the District of Columbia, was reported by Mr. GARFIELD for its passage, but on objection it was sent to the Committee of the Whole, where it can only be reached in the regular order or by a suspension of the rules on Monday.

Mr. HARRISON, from the Committee on Elections, presented a report on the proposed amendment to the Constitution as to the election of President and Vice President, in favor of the plurality system; and a minority report was presented by Mr. SMITH, of New York, recommending the abolition of electoral colleges and a direct election by the people. Ordered printed.

Mr. ELDRIDGE, from the Judiciary Committee, reported adversely the bill to create a new State out of certain portions of Louisiana and Texas. Laid on the table.

Mr. TREMAIN, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill to provide for the redemption of overdue bonds of the United States known as "Texas indemnity bonds." There are one hundred and forty-nine $1,000 bonds belonging to the State of Texas, which were taken from there during the war and sold in Europe to Peabody in the next. Previous to this the State had received no consideration. The party holding them refuses to present them, and the object of the bill is to pay the amount to the State of Texas, which is to guarantee the United States. The bill was sent to the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. WHITE, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill for an United States Judge for the West District of Tennessee. Same disposition.

Mr. CESSNA, from the Judiciary Committee, reported adversely a bill for the relief of the Southern States by the compromise and settlement of their debts. Laid on the table.

Mr. POTTER, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a joint resolution proposing the following amendment to the Constitution:

Article 16. From and after the next election for President of the United States, the President shall hold his office during a term of six years, and neither he nor the Vice President chosen for the same term, be elected in the manner as now provided or that may hereafter be provided. But neither the President nor Vice President (when the office of President has devolved upon him) shall be eligible for reelection as President. He remarked that the amendment would not affect the next Presidential term, and moved the previous question.

The previous question was seconded, and the main question ordered.

Mr. E. R. HOAR expressed surprise that such a proposition should be passed without discussion.

Mr. POTTER replied that if any question had been discussed and discussed until everybody within the House and outside was familiar with it, it was this question.

Mr. GARFIELD inquired how it would be with the Vice President succeeding to the Presidential office within a week of the close of the term.

Mr. POTTER replied that he would have to take the office with its restrictions and disabilities.

Mr. E. R. HOAR remarked that while he was not of the opinion that there was likely to be any occasion when he should favor or believed the American people would favor the election of any person in the Presidential office beyond two terms, he did not believe that an argument as to the corruption of the people by the executive power was one the force of which the people should confess that they needed such protection against such influence as that they would deliberately deprive themselves of the power of selecting their Chief Magistrade. He remembered a conversation which he had with an eminent gentlemen, standing high in office, in reference to the reelection of Lincoln, and who was very much opposed to this reelection, and he (Hoar) had then said that he believed the American people intended to reelect Lincoln, if necessary, during the rest of his life, until he was recognized by every part of the country as President of the United states. If (Hoar) did not propose to aid in depriving the American people of the right, under any emergency or exigency, of determining whom they should keep in the Presidential chair. He did not believe that they ever would keep a man beyond the time which Washington's example had sanctioned, and which was one of the traditions of the republic, but it was a very grave and serious question to deprive the people of the power to choose.

Mr. KASSON suggested that it was a serious question with all popular governments whether ineligibility should apply to any but the next term of office, and he proposed to amend the bill in that respect, allowing eligibility after six years. The amendment was allowed to be offered.

On motion of Mr. E. R. HOAR, the vote ordering the main question was reconsidered and the question opened to discussion.

Mr. BUTLER, of Massachusetts, defended the Judiciary Committee from the implied censure of his colleague (Hoar) in regard to passing a Constitutional amendment under the previous question. The proposition was simply offered to the American people to decide after full consideration and without any previous question. If the House said that it would not offer them such an amendment, there was no way in which the people could discuss and pass upon it. The House could stand in the way of Constitutional amendments, but it could not bring the people to it in any other way. Therefore he should be pretty liberal in voting propositions for Constitutional amendments to be sent to the people. If the people wanted them they ought to have them, and if they did not want them they would take good care in the several States not to pass them.

Mr. HAZELTON, of Wisconsin—Have there been petitions from the several States for this amendment?

Mr. BUTLER—For a long series of years there have been agitation and petitions for this amendment. It has been urged all over the country, and it comes up now without any possible personal relations to it. Nobody, so far as I know, has a single idea of any possible person to be voted for the present Executive. I agree that the people ought to have the right to elect a man President just as many times as they choose, and nobody ought to interfere with that right; but the people ought also to have the correlative right—which is, to say that they will not elect a man more than once, if they want to say so. If they will not give them that privilege, they can never have the opportunity of saying so. I do not think this proposition refers to the corruption of the people by the President, but that it rather refers to the political action of Congress. It has been said that a new President is engaged in getting offices under him, and that the second Congress is engaged in seeing how it can make a new President so as to get offices under him. It is therefore desirable to have one term of Congress for attending to business without any such temptation. It has also been said that the reason why the country has been so unsuccessful in Vice Presidents, when they became Presidents, is that they have always looked to a reelection, and therefore we propose to take away the temptation from the Vice President as well as the President. I differ, however, with my colleague.

Mr. HOAR—I can conceive a condition of things under which I would vote for a President three, four or ten times. How does my colleague differ from me in saying that?

Mr. BUTLER—If I do not differ with my colleague I am glad for once in my life to agree with him. I see to-day that defeating what the saying of the late President Lincoln had good sense and good wit, that "it is not worth while to swap horses in crossing a stream." When George Washington set up the example he had got across and all was peace and quiet, but the time which would call for the re-election of a President is when a strong hand has hold of the Government, and when in a time of commotion, in a time of rebellion, in a time when thousands and thousands are murdered in one section of the country without any punishment for their murder, and people feel a doubt as to what will be the future of the country without a reelection, then I can conceive a possibility of the people coming up as one man to the reelection of the strong hand that will hold the Government in the future as it held it in the past. Then they will cry out, in the language of the poet-laureate of Great Britain:

Ah God! for a man with head, heart, hand,
Like one of old men simple great ones, gone
Forever and forever by;
A still, strong man in a blatant land,
Whatever they call him, what care I?
Aristocrat, autocrat, democrat—one
Who can rule, and dare not lie.

I can conceive of that, and the only thing that will ever make a third term successful (and I warn my Democratic friends of it) is the keeping of one section of the country disturbed and at war with itself. If a third term for the Presidency is now made possible, it is made so only by the upturning which you (indicating the Democrats) have thrown upon us; and if it is possible, it will be done by you.

Mr. E. H. ROBERTS—As I read history, republics are overthrown by the plea of necessity and in times of great excitement, and I desire that this cold blood the American people shall have an opportunity to say whether or not they are willing, in any emergency, to reelect a President for a third time. As I read history, dangers to republics come, not as the gentleman from Massachusetts (Butler) suggested—from below, but always from above. Always the pretense is that the country needs a strong man; always the pretense is that there is disturbance somewhere; that there is need of an army and of military chieftains. Dictators come through the plea of necessity. Tell me of one republic that has ever been overthrown in any way other than that. I want the American people at least to have the opportunity to say how they read history, and whether they do not believe that in that way lies murder to the Republic. For one, I desire to say that, even in the case which the gentleman from Massachusetts has suggested—the reelection of Lincoln—it would have been better to have elected another rather than established the principle of a continuous Executive. I cannot conceive a contingency in which I would be willing to be for a continuous Executive of this Republic, and I ask the gentlemen on this side to consider whether or not they are willing now to be put upon the record as willing to invite a contingency in the future, when we shall be called upon to meet the question of disturbance, of the excitement of a continuous executive of a strong man in a strong government. My faith is not in strong men. My faith is in the American people. Constitutions are made in time of deliberation, if they are good constitutions, and I want the American people to have the privilege of saying what their Constitution shall be. I deem that infinitely more important than the abolition of electoral colleges and a direct election by the people. Ordered printed.

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SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

A. JOHNSON TO THE FRONT.

How His Election is Regarded at the Capitol.

Stowell and the Naval Cadetship.

Recommendation for the Appointment of a Board of Experts in Iron.

THE OLD SUGG FORT CLAIM.

Connection of Several Gentlemen with It to be Investigated.

New Idria Mining Claims to be Sent to the Courts.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 26, 1875.

Andrew Johnson's Election.

It was reported at the Capitol to-day that Andrew Johnson had been elected Senator from Tennessee. This was not welcome news to either Republicans or Democrats. The Democratic Senators think that Johnson, by the injudicious and intemperate course which he is sure to pursue, will do the party interests much damage. The Republicans, who know the character of the man, look forward to his stirring up the old sores on all occasions, and although they may have no fear of meeting him in debate, they do not like the idea of having the Senate turned into an arena of perpetual wrangling.

Stowell and the Cadetship.

The House Committee on Naval Affairs met to-day to discuss the report of the committee in the matter of the alleged sale of a cadetship by Congressman Stowell, of Virginia. No conclusion was reached, and the committee adjourned until Thursday. While it is probable that the report will exonerate Mr. Stowell from any direct criminality in the transaction, there are circumstances connected with the affair that demand some expression of opinion in relation to the whole subject, and they desire to take such action as will prevent, if possible, any attempt at bargain and sale in the future.

Board of Iron Experts.

A delegation of civil engineers were heard to-day by the House Committee on Appropriations in the interest of the passage of a bill authorizing the President to appoint a board of experts to determine, by actual tests, the [strength and value of all samples of iron and other metals which may be submitted to them.

The Sugg Fort Claim.

The Committee on War Claims of the House has not decided definitely upon the question of Representative Roderick R. Butler's complicity in the settlement of the Sugg Fort Claim. The whole subject has been referred to a subcommittee composed of Messrs. Hazelton, of Wisconsin; Scudder, of New Jersey, Morrison, of Illinois, who will report at the next meeting of the committee. The fact that figure will require with reference to the action of Gen. Shiras and Third Auditor Rutherford in connection with the payment of the claim. The probabilities are that the whole subject will be left with the courts.

New Idria Mining Company.

The Committee on the Judiciary had the floor in the House to-day, and reported a number of bills, among which was one to permit the courts to consider the claims of all claimants to what are known as the New Idria quicksilver mines of California. This opens the door to Mr. Wm. McGarrahan, who has been unsuccessfully fighting the New Idria Company for years. The bill was passed as reported, without even a yea and nay vote. It was agreed to in committee by a vote of 10 to 1, Mr. Potter, of New York, alone voting in the negative.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 26, 1875.

NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

The following nominations were sent to the Senate to-day: Postmasters—John C. Filer, Muncie, Ind.; Wm. W. Craddick, Knoxville, Tenn. The following Internal Revenue appointments were made to-day: Gauger—Charles F. Davis, First district of Ohio; Store-keepers—A. H. Lacy, Charles Slack, Second district of Virginia; E. B. Jameson, Eighth district of Kentucky.

RAILROADS IN DEFAULT TO THE GOVERNMENT.

The Secretary of the Treasury has notified the Attorney General that the Central Branch of the Union Pacific, the Sioux City and Pacific, the Union Pacific, the Kansas Pacific and the Central Pacific Railway Companies have failed to comply with the demands made by the Treasury Department for five per cent. of their net earnings after sixty days notice to them. Accordingly the Attorney General has commenced preparations for bringing suits against these companies, which has not yet been acted upon the places in which the proceedings shall be commenced.

ANOTHER FIRE

was discovered in the basement of the Navy Department this afternoon, in a pile of kindling wood, which was suppressed before doing any injury.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS RECIPROCITY TREATY.

The negotiations for a reciprocity treaty with the Sandwich Islands have been practically completed, and it will be sent to the Senate in the course of a few days. At the instance of the Hawaiian Commissioners, it has been provided that the treaty shall not go into effect until the House of Representatives gives its sanction by appropriate legislation. The question recently raised by the resolutions of the Vermont Legislature, as to the right of the President and Senate to decide upon certain matters of commercial policy, will thus be avoided. The Hawaiian Commissioners have also suggested the imposition of a clause upon the treaty the levying of export duties on any article named in the treaty. This has been done in view of the action of the Government of Brazil, which, when the United States removed the import duty on coffee, levied an export duty of five cents per pound on coffee. This, it is said, hence been added to the profits of foreign producers and paid by consumers.

HOUSE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS.

The House Republicans held a caucus to-night with a view, if possible, to retrieve the defeat by the House on Monday of their caucus action of Saturday night. There was a tolerably full attendance and much earnest debate, but a number left the caucus before there was any determination of the questions before them. Several declared they would not be bound by the caucus action. It is said by a member who remained until the close, that the only conclusion reached was the adoption of a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to report the Civil Rights bill in its order, that the bill be open to amendment, that after three hours debate the previous question shall be moved in order to force a vote, even if it should require a continuous session of forty-eight hours to do so.

The Pennsylvania War Claims—The Adverse Report of the Committee—The Grounds for Their Decision—Some General Facts Concerning War Claims—Rebel Agents Looking For a Democratic Victory to Pay the Cotton Claims—Imperative Duty of Patriotic Citizens—Survey and Improvement of the Mouth of the Mississippi River—Plans Proposed—Report of the Board of Engineers.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 25, 1875.

The House Committee on War Claims, to whom was referred the bill for the relief of certain citizens of the counties of Adams, Bedford, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton, Somerset and York, in the State of Pennsylvania who suffered losses from union and rebel troops during the invasion of that State by Lee's army, in their report convey much interesting information on this important subject. The claim may now be considered as finally and adversely disposed of.

The damages sustained by those border counties were adjudicated under an act of Assembly of Pennsylvania by Commissioners appointed for that purpose. The reports of these State Commissioners were filed with the Auditor General, and amounted in the aggregate to the following sums:

LOSSES.	
Adams county, burning of Chambersburgh	$ 489,438 99
Franklin county, burning of Chambersburgh	1,825,435 55
Franklin county, other claims	86,653 50
Cumberland county	211,778 95½
York county	214,739 05
Fulton county	56,344 98
Bedford county	6,818 63
Somerset county	120 00
Total	$3,450,909 75½

PAYMENTS.	
For relief of Chambersburgh, act of August 26, 1864	$100,000 00
For relief of Chambersburgh and vicinity, act of February 15, 1865	500,000 00
For relief of Chambersburgh and vicinity, act of May 27, 1871	500,000 00
Total	$1,100,000 00

A bill was introduced into the House of Representatives of the United States to authorize the Treasurer of the United States to pay the sum of $1,254,474 30 to the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania, for the use of the citizens of the counties above named, according to the report of the Commissioners appointed by the State to ascertain and fix the losses and damages sustained by them respectively from union and rebel troops.

On January 8, 1875, the committee made an adverse report upon the bill. That fact was stated in this correspondence at that time. The report, with accompanying documents, has just been received from the Government printer. The grounds upon which the committee reject the claims of Pennsylvania are briefly stated as follows:

"That so far as any citizen of Pennsylvania furnished Quartermaster's stores or contingent supplies, or so far as those were taken for the Union military forces, ample provision is made by law for their adjudication by application to the War Department."

And these have been, so far as presented and proved, duly paid. That the claims covered by this bill are mainly for property of various kinds seized, used, damaged and destroyed by rebel troops during their invasion of Pennsylvania, including property damaged in battle, and in part for property damaged or destroyed by union military forces in battle or necessary military operations incident thereto. All these, the committee think, are in the sense of international law, "ravages of war." The whole subject of the liability or duty of the Government in relation to these and similar claims, was fully discussed in the report from this committee made March 30, 1874. The committee add that it is there shown that the Government is under no obligation or duty to compensate its citizens for property seized, damaged or destroyed by the public enemy, or for loss sustained by the Government forces, or wantonly or unauthorized by its own troops, nor by actual and necessary Government military operations to repel a threatened attack of, or in advancing to meet, an enemy in flagrant war.

The committee think it is not deemed necessary to repeat or add to what is said in that report in support of the principles there stated.

The committee therefore recommend that the bill do lie on the table.

The number claims arising out of the war which have been filed in the Quartermaster General's office on July 1, 1874, amounted to 13,035 for $10,967,401 80. Of these, 881, claiming $1,032,484 88, have been reported, recommending allowance of $495,234 38, a reduction of $537,250 47; 828, claiming the sum of $694,152 19, have been reported unfavorably. Thus 1,409 claims have been disposed of, amounting, as presented, to $1,726,637 04, and there remained at the end of the year 12,544 claims, for $9,240,764 80.

On July 1, 1874, there were also 1,545 claims for transportation amounting to $2,278,278 84. Of these 1,310 have been disposed of; their amount is $1,674,952 75. Ninety-five, amounting to $400,916 19, were rejected. Seventy-five, amounting to $197,955 41, were suspended. The remainder were either reported for settlement or transferred to other Departments to which they properly pertained. There remained on 30th June, 1874, 235 accounts and claims for transportation, amounting to $613,326 11.

On July 1, 1874, there were on file 20,202 claims and accounts of a miscellaneous character, for $9,220,145 16.

"Five thousand and forty claims were approved, for $3,965,429 42, being a reduction in the amount as presented of $239,916 37; 940, amounting to $271,992 79, were rejected; 55, amounting to $5,703 25, were referred to other Departments to which they pertained; 6,180 accounts were approved, $442,966 93, being a reduction in the accounts as presented of $4,832 07. 3 accounts were rejected, amounting to $7,935 42; total disposed of, 11,848 accounts and claims, amounting, as presented, to $1,742,147 56. Thirteen thousand five hundred and ninety-seven miscellaneous claims and 847 accounts remain on file, amounting to $7,477,997 66.

"Under the third section of the act of July 4, 1864, 310 claims, amounting to $235,966 85, for subsistence supplies alleged to have been used by the enemy or taken by officers for the use of the army, in the late war, in States not in rebellion, were filed in this office for examination; 73 claims, amounting to $66,712 93, were examined and recommended to the Third Auditor of the Treasury for payment; and 109 claims, amounting to $129,527 49, were examined and rejected.

"Under the joint resolution of Congress of July 25, 1866, and section three of the act of March 2, 1867, 175 certificates for commutation of rations to union soldiers while prisoners of war were received and paid to the claimants or their legal heirs. These payments amounted to $52,725 00.

One of the most serious features in the accession of the Democrats to power, should that lamentable end come, lies in the boldness already evidenced by the action of those in already declaring that they will demand every dollar for cotton captured or destroyed during the late rebellion by the forces in the Southern States during the rebellion. There are already on the ground scores of agents who have or are preparing their cases, and many have had the license to come in from Canada, even now. It is no credit to the law making power that they have authorized the payment of these claims. A Pennsylvania suffers for her losses in the war, many cotton claims have been settled in the South. As a premium for loyalty it is an exquisite method of treating an impulse which should burn in the bosom of every patriotic citizen of the Union. It would be well for citizens who have financial or commercial interests at stake, for those who are dependent for subsistence upon the activity of every kind of enterprise, to reflect upon the importance of improving river by the purse-strings of the nation. A prominent cotton claim agent from the South, the other day tauntingly exclaimed that the Democrats had but a few years of Democratic rule to witness the settlement of all the cotton claims held by citizens of the cotton States against the Government. Every one knows that "if" that be the policy of the Democrats their reign will be limited to two years." Anyone who wishes to serve his country as effectually as he can, should study the Constitution and Union did a few years ago with their bayonets, should see that the cotton claim agents' designs be not realized.

The report of the Board of Engineers appointed under act of June 27, 1874, to make "A survey of the mouth of the Mississippi river, with a view to determine the best method of obtaining and maintaining a depth of water sufficient for the purposes of commerce, either by a canal from said river to the waters of the Gulf or by deepening one or more of the natural outlets of said river," contains much information of interest, in addition to that which has already been made public.

As there has been no example in this country of the improvement of a large river-mouth so as to give an outlet to the sea with much deeper water than naturally exists on its bar, the Board, in its consideration of what experience has elsewhere shown to be practicable in such a case, has found its only examples in the mouths of European rivers.

There has been great difference of opinion among engineers, not only in this country, but in Europe, as to whether the best method of securing a deep water outlet from a sediment-bearing river which empties into the sea, as in Vistula, in the Danube and the Rhone, into a nearly tideless sea, is by jettees or by a lateral canal.

At the Vistula, after vain attempts for many years to improve the natural mouth, the river formed a new outlet, and the old one, turned into a lateral canal, has long given the deepest water to the important port of Dantzic.

At the mouth of the Danube, after the canal-system and the jettee-system had each been proposed by eminent authorities, and neither adopted, as a final plan it was decided, in order to do something, to try feeble jettees as a provisional scheme. The results of the latest change in the engineer expected, and the jettees, made permanent, give an admirable outlet to the Danube to-day.

At the mouth of the Rhone, the engineers, after trying for many years to secure a good outlet by dikes, which, however, never reached the bar, abandoned that plan and built a lateral canal, which is more than adequate to the wants of commerce.

While the results are so contradictory, the unanimous action of the commission of the board about the above named foreign rivers was, except for the Danube, not recent and very meager.

The Board is not involved in the proper improvement of the mouth of the Mississippi are so great, and the work so costly, that it is imperative to obtain the best possible knowledge and judgment as to the method to be adopted. Accordingly, in order that the opinion of the board should be based on a full knowledge of what has been done, and of the latest results obtained elsewhere, in this most difficult branch of engineering, it was decided to visit the mouths of the rivers mentioned, and, as bearing on a canal to a harbor, also the North Sea and Suez Canal.

The result of these examinations abroad (while additional information has been gained on almost every point relating to the problem before them) has been to largely strengthen their estimate of the value for jettees, at the mouth of the Mississippi river, of the fascine dikes used in Holland by Caland in the improvement of the Maas mouth of the Rhine.

After returning from Europe, the board met in New Orleans, spending about three weeks, of which eight days were employed in examinations at the mouths of the Mississippi river, and at the site for a canal proposed by Captain Howell.

A number of locations for a canal were considered by the Board, among which may be mentioned the one proposed by Captain Howell, near Fort St. Philip; one leaving Pass la Loutre, about six miles inside its bar, and running north into deep water; one leaving Southwest Pass, about six miles inside of its bar, and running east into deep water; and one obtained by closing the South Pass at is head by a dam and entering it by a canal and lock from the Southwest Pass, and opening its mouth by dredging, the mouth being protected by jettees.

The site in the vicinity of Fort St. Philip was adopted, with but one dissenting voice, as offering greater hopes of permanency than the others. The canal is about six and one-third miles long through a country at no point more than three feet above tide and much through shallow lagoons.

The board decided that the canal should leave the Mississippi at a point about five and a half miles below Fort St. Philip, at such an angle with the river that vessels would be able to enter it easily; that about a mile from its beginning there should be a basin of 1,000 feet by 2,500 feet; that before reaching the basin, and near it, there should be a lock, 500 feet long between its miter-sills, of 65 feet clear width, and with 27 feet of water on its miter-sills at mean low tide; that part of the lock in the vicinity of the gates to be of masonry, [on a piled foundation, with heavy grillage; the rest of the prism of the lock to be of earth with revetted slopes of one upon one; guard-gates to be placed above and below the lock; the canal to be 200 feet wide on the bottom, 27 feet deep at mean low water, and with slopes of one-half (or one vertical on two horizontal), allowing these to flatten if they will (the bank of

The Commercial.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 27, 1875.

AND now the New York *Herald* actually flatters itself that it has incurred the enmity of BISMARCK. *Tyxl'*

THE Emperor of China, a young boy who had not yet attained his nineteenth year, is dead. There is likely to be a Celestial row over the succession.

THERE seems to be a serious purpose in both branches of the Illinois Legislature to repeal the Railroad law and legislate out of existence the Railroad Board.

GENERAL BURNSIDE has been elected to the United States Senate from Rhode Island, as the successor of that self-important nonentity, SPRAGUE. The Republicans of that State have honored themselves in their choice.

THE shipments of specie from New York, last week, were $3,682,658, and for the month, since January 1, $7,626,858. At this rate, we shall use up a year's supply of the precious metals in less than six months, and be further away from resumption than ever.

THE determination of the Senate Committee on Patents to grant no further extensions of sewing machine patents, will bring gladness to thousands of humble homes. We have contended strenuously for the cheapening of this poor girls' breadwinner from the outset.

WHEN MCDONALD, the new Democratic Senator from Indiana, ran for Congress in 1849, he pledged himself on both sides of the slavery question, and is now committed on both sides of the finance question. He is like a double-ended ferryboat; he runs as well one way as another.

IT IS a practice among children to count over the buttons on their jackets for the purpose of divining their future occupations, beginning at the top and ending at the bottom, as thus: farmer, coachman, tailor, SCHUMAKER, thief. That's how the Democratic member of Congress from Brooklyn had his fortune told.

BEECHER has just written a lengthy letter to an Indiana clergyman concerning his religious doctrines. Doctrines are of use only as they are practised. Divorce between creed and conduct are quite common, and many a man goes down in the bottomless sloughs with his mind chock full of theoretical truth.

IT BEGINS to look vastly as though the Democrats in Congress really intend, if they can, to defeat the Army Appropriation bill. This, however, is not strange. Some of them have never forgiven it for the honorable part it took in putting down the rebellion, and in helping to bring Southern "banditti" to justice, since.

THERE was once a Scottish robber-chieftain who, just prior to a desperate fight, ordered his men to set fire to the straw which served them for bedding, that they might advance unnoticed in the smoke. A similar plan is now being pursued by our own Democratic reactionists. This is what all this hullabaloo from the press and platform of that party, over Southern affairs, is about. It is simply to mask a rebel advance.

THE New York *Journal of Commerce* bemoans the failure of the Canadian reciprocity treaty, but comforts itself with the reflection that the "next session will bring an infusion of new blood in the Senate, as well as the House," when the adoption of the treaty will probably be effected. The *Journal* forecasts the time too hastily. The next Senate will contain a majority of Republican members, and so long as this preponderance remains, the swindle will not pass.

IN ANSWER to an interrogatory from this paper as to what would have been the Democratic policy had that party been entrusted with the reconstruction of the South, the St. Louis *Dispatch* grandiloquently but vaguely informs us that "the roots of Democratic principles draw strength from the soil itself." Which, we suppose, accounts for the rank and luxurious growth of said "principles" in those parts of Louisiana and other Southern States that have been fertilized with the blood of murdered Republicans.

THE dough-faces at Shreveport who signed the card denying the truth of Major MERRILL'S report, might have saved themselves the trouble of adding to their names the significant words, "Cotton-buyers." Everybody acquainted with the state of the case would naturally have concluded that they were engaged in dealing with the White Leaguers, who would not permit any one to buy cotton from them, and allow him at the same time to say that his soul was his own. They had either to sign the card or quit buying cotton.

THE Supreme Court, sitting at Philadelphia, has decided, in a case against that city, that it has original jurisdiction in cases of injunctions against all corporations, and that the word "corporations," as used in the third section of Art. 5 of the Constitution, includes public or municipal, as well as private corporations. While, however, the court is careful to assert this claim to original jurisdiction, it declines to exercise it, except in extreme cases, and prefers that all such cases should come before it upon appeal from the courts below.

ANDREW JOHNSON has been chosen to the United States Senate from Tennessee. His election secures one good result. The Constitution will now be safe for six years to come. They will have to deaden the walls of the Senate, however, to keep the sound of his noisy aggressiveness and combativeness from throwing the whole capital into confusion and excitement. He was born, and lives, in the objective case—and he owes his present success to his violent opposition to the exercise of the National authority in putting down the incipient new rebellion in the South.

WE MENTIONED, the other day, that several applications for the organization of new national banks had been made to the Comptroller of the Currency, since the passage of the new Finance bill. It appears that within five days after it received the President's signature, eighteen such applications, embracing an aggregate capital of $2,850,000, were made, all of them but two in the New England States, New York, New Jersey and our own State. Five other banks have since applied for an increase of $710,000 in their capital stock. This would seem to indicate that capitalists are beginning to grow tired of seeing their money lying idle and bringing in no return.

THE number of prisoners annually discharged from the various penal institutions of the country, forms an army of startling importance. From the penitentiaries of New York city and Brooklyn, 4,222 were released last year, while 21,211 were dismissed from the workhouse at Blackwell's Island. During the same time the number recorded at the Albany penitentiary was 1,421, while 978 liberated convicts left the State prisons of the same State. Vast improvements have of late years been made in prison-economy, by introducing the productive industries in our correctional institutions, but we suspect that something more than hammers and shoe-lasts will be needed before this element of our population can be effectually reclaimed and elevated. The problem is one of the gravest social questions which confront our day and race.

SPEAKING of the cant indulged in by the *Tribune* and other papers over the arrest of WHITELAW REID in Washington, for libel, the *Herald* very properly says:

"A journalist has no more right to assail the private character of a citizen than he has to put a knife into his side or to fire a pistol at him in the dark. When we hear all this cant and moan about the invasion of the liberties of the press, 'limitations of the rights of editors,' and an attempt to to enforce a 'gag law' and an interference with a prerogative of Republican institutions, we despise it. Law is the master of all men, journalists as well as the rest."

It is so rare a thing for a newspaper to speak up for its right and its duty to be decent, rather than for its right to libel, that we quote this expression of the *Herald* as an almost isolated indication of the feeling that should characterize the press generally. Just now, almost the entire press of Pennsylvania is clamoring for the passage of Senator ERMENTROUT'S bill amending the libel law, for no other reason, that we can see, than because it is thought that that bill, if passed, will render libeling more easy and the punishment of it more difficult. Under the present law, a paper that performs its duty to the public honestly and carefully, is in no danger of prosecutions for libel; and if it violates the law, it ought to be above asking immunity from the punishment it prescribes.

REV. CHARLES KINGSLEY.

Many persons have been so accustomed to think of the Rev. Canon KINGSLEY as one of the chief apostles of muscular Christianity and vigorous living, that they could not help feeling some surprise at the announcement of his early death. The importance of health, the ethical value of strong muscles and well-strung nerves as essential to the full development of moral and even religious vitality and energy, is one of the ideas, or series of ideas, upon which Mr. KINGSLEY most earnestly insisted and which he as effectually, if not more effectually than any other English teacher, impressed upon his contemporaries. But his early death, we need hardly say, suggests no doubt as to the soundness of the doctrine he so powerfully inculcated, that man as a composite creature, having a body as well as a soul, may not neglect either element if he would adequately perform his part in the world. In dying prematurely he may, for ought we know, have merely paid the penalty incurred by ancestral ignorance of or contempt for such teaching.

MR. KINGSLEY has lived a busy, and, perhaps upon the whole, an intellectually laborious life. His name, if we rightly remember, first became familiarly known to American readers in connection with a slight incident which strongly appealed to their republican sympathies. The Rev. Mr. KINGSLEY, curate of Eversley, so ran the newspaper paragraph, had preached a sermon on the parable of "DIVES and LAZARUS," which had given great offense to the Rector of the church in which the discourse was delivered. The preacher had boldly asserted that the relations between the rich and the poor, as sanctioned by the Church in England, were an outrage on civilization and a practical denial of the teaching and mission of CHRIST. While Mr. KINGSLEY was engaged in illustrating this charge, the Rector interrupted him, to say that he could not permit such sentiments to be uttered in his presence without protest and contradiction. This was the substance of the statement, and when soon afterwards Mr. KINGSLEY'S first novel, "Alton Locke," made its appearance, some, perhaps many, read it with livelier feelings of interest and gratification as the work of a clergyman whose sympathy for the humble classes had been so frankly and fearlessly declared. No doubt many Americans gave the preacher credit for greater courage and independence than there was really any need or occasion for. In fact, Mr. KINGSLEY'S position as the champion of the poor and obscure was not so isolated as it seemed to those who looked at English society from this side of the water. He was only one of a great number; a courageous, sympathetic man stirred by the popular, democratic spirit which had been since many years gathering in the British air and saying to those who had ears to hear that English feudalism was doomed in its last social strongholds, and that every Englishman, however lowly born, must be allowed to make the most of himself according to the law of duty and conscience.

At the time referred to, Mr. KINGSLEY was a very young man, and much of the spirit and teaching, both of his early sermons and books, was inspired by youthful sentimentalism. As he grew in years he learned to accept the government and the social system of his country as upon the whole satisfactory and worthy institutions, and when at lenghth he became Canon of Westminster, Queen's Chaplain and Cambridge Professor, he was as far from being a radical or an innovator in either Church or State as even the Rector for who once rebuked his folly could desire. Hence he was one of those who would gladly see the Southern Confederacy established on the corner-stone of slavery, if thereby the Great Republic could be put out of England's way, and his sympathy with the oppressed seems to have suggested no scruples or misgivings when he took a leading part in defending and honoring Governor EYRE, for his atrocious administration in Jamaica.

Mr. KINGSLEY'S books are always entertaining, and often instructive by what they suggest as well as by what they directly teach. To the cause of humanity he rendered valuable service by helping to popularize in the English Church the human or humanitarian side of Christianity. He also aided the cause of education by urging the importance of introducing sciences into the schools and by his own enthusiasm in the cultivation of natural history. His championship of physical education we have already mentioned. When in New York last year Mr. KINGSLEY, in explanation of his own physical vigor, made a statement, which it may interest some to recall, "I am," said Mr. KINGSLEY, "I am in the true and highest sense of the word, a Socialist, and I have always been; not that I learned it from FOURIER, but from a man far older and wiser than FOURIER—my master PLATO. I read PLATO in the public schools when I was a lad, and PLATO'S Republic has been the lodestar and the guiding genius of my political and social thought, and I hope it will remain till I die."

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE BUSINESS OF PITTSBURGH.

We shall, on Wednesday next, February 3d, publish our statement of the business of Pittsburgh for 1874, similar to the annual statements hitherto published by us. The compilation now made has been very carefully put together, and every available source of information has been resorted to, for the purpose of making it full and correct. In the absence of a Board of Trade, to gather up and publish such statistics, the COMMERCIAL has given exclusive attention to that task, and is the only paper in the city that has made the subject a specialty.

Those who desire extra copies of the paper containing these statistics will oblige us by leaving their orders at our counting-room at any time before Monday evening.

IN SEARCHING for the causes which have led to the scenes of lawlessness and violence in Louisiana and other Southern States, the real cause has not yet been touched upon. It is to be found in the aid and comfort given to the Ku-Klux and White Leagues by the Northern Democracy. The election of ALLEN in Ohio, in 1873, and the New Hampshire and Connecticut elections of last spring, resulting in the choice of EATON as United States Senator from Connecticut, gave the Southern mobocrats their most substantial encouragement. As soon as the Ku-Klux saw that there was a chance of the Democrats returning to power again, they began to crawl from their holes and to hold up their heads boldly; and the Democratic successes in October, 1874, still further encouraged and emboldened them. They threw off all disguise when they found their natural allies coming once more to the front; and if there had been no Democratic successes at the elections in 1874, there would have been no outrages in Louisiana to mourn over or put down. Those Republicans, therefore, who through cupidity and petulance, voted the Democratic ticket at the last election, may credit themselves with having contributed thereby to the rebellious attitude of the South at this moment. The only sure cure for the Louisiana troubles is to be found in the return of the North to its Republicanism. A Republican victory in New Hampshire and Connecticut at the ensuing elections will do more than the army can to restore peace to the South; and a Democratic victory, there, will only intensify the present trouble.

The reason for all this is not hard to find. The Democrats of the South, judging the present by the past, regard the Northern Democracy as allies who will stand by them in whatever they do; and, satisfied that they may rely upon this co-operation, their policy is to establish a reign of terror throughout the South which will keep the Republicans there from voting, and so get into possession of the government of the Southern States. Once in power, they feel perfectly able to maintain their ascendancy by reducing the blacks to Peonage and cutting them off from their rights and privileges, and if the Democrats can hold on to the States they now have in the North, the election of a Democratic President in 1876 would be easy. Hence the struggle to get possession of Louisiana, and hence, also, the outbreaks in Alabama and Mississippi. It is all part of a general Democratic scheme to capture control of the General Government; and the essential part of the scheme is that the Democrats should hold on to the Northern States, already partly in their possession. A Republican reaction will knock this scheme into fragments; and the best way to sustain the President in his effort to sustain the laws is to strengthen his hand with Republican victories. The White Leaguers will yield to such results quicker than to any other.

MR. HENRY NICOLL, a leading Democratic lawyer of New York, and a member of the first families of that city, is charged with using $200,000 of his clients' money in a private speculation of his own, which has come to grief; whereupon the New York *Mail* puts in a *caveat* in his behalf and says:

Wouldn't it be just as well to suspend judgment as to the case of Mr. Henry Nicoll, until the facts are all known?

Which is all right, of course. The newspapers have no right to pass judgment, in any man's case, until the facts are all known; but in what single case have the New York papers acted upon this basis? Their universal rule is and has been to judge and condemn upon mere rumor, without waiting for a development of the facts. It would be a matter of rejoicing if we could find them adopting and acting upon the rule laid down by the *Mail* in Mr. NICOLL'S case; but we shall not indulge in any rejoicings over it until we see some evidence of a disposition to live up to it. The course of the New York press, in uniformly judging and condemning men unheard, has not only disgraced journalism, generally, but has served to debauch it, everywhere, by the imitation it has provoked by its evil example.

THE Philadelphia *North American* notes a number of encouraging indications that point to a general revival in business activity during the present year. That paper says:

"The export trade in iron and the products thereof has progressed steadily, and the export of textile fabrics from New England has taken a new start. The mining statistics of our gold and silver regions for 1874 show a greater product than ever. We have made decided headway in copper, lead and spelter. The Southern manufacturing interests have all made extraordinary progress. The national banking system is increasing at the South and West. Railway transportation is beginning to recover from the revulsion and to exhibit an increase of receipts. In many lines of traffic the country is becoming rapidly independent and self-sustaining. Shipbuilding has been active in all districts, but especially in the New England and Middle States. The great industrial interests of the North and West are in an improving condition. That the country is not really so impoverished as the croakers have represented is seen in the fact that the general trade of December of all the cities was unusually good."

ABERT'S list of the recipients of Pacific Mail money, put down WM. MORAN, of Philadelphia, as receiving only $200. We though it strange, at the time, that that distinguished Philadelphia Reformer should sell himself at so low a figure; and now we have IRWIN'S testimony to the effect that he gave MORAN from $10,000 to $15,000. MORAN'S return for this was to write letters to the papers, and incite others to write, so as to keep public excitement "sweet and fresh" upon the subsidy question. As WILLIAM is now publishing a Reform Sunday paper in Philadelphia, it is presumable that this was the last haul he has been able to make, and that he will not now support any public man who does not pay for it, nor advocate any measure which is not sweetened and freshened by a largess as liberal as that dealt out to him by IRWIN.

IN MAINE, the pioneer Prohibition State, the people seem to have come to the conclusion that sumptuary regulations, as means of temperance reform, are not to be permanently relied on. Hence resort is again being had to the old abandoned instrumentalities of moral suasion, and it is stated that, in the cities of Bangor, Portland, Saco and Lewiston it is doing greater good to-day than all the prohibitory laws in the world could accomplish. The same principle of temperance reform is also regaining a foothold in Massachusetts, from which it has been practically banished for a number of years.

THE project of the Northern Central Railroad Company to erect a grain elevator at Buffalo has been abandoned, the capitalists of that city demanding so many privileges and drawbacks after the erection of the elevator that a contract with these parties would have proved anything but profitable to the company. The directors, however, have decided that the interests of the road require the erection of such a warehouse, and it is probable that Baltimore will be selected as the site. The workmen of the company are also to be removed from York, in this State, to that city.

The Mechanics' High School.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The subject of education is receiving much attention now, as it should at all times. It was a new thing for many to read the report of the State Deputy Superintendent of Schools, published in full in your paper. There are a few things in this report which impressed us unfavorably. That our schools are equal to any in the country or world, may or may not be true. A thorough knowledge of schools in our own and adjoining States should be had before such a statement is made. Our system is comparatively young. Other States have had a far longer period to perfect theirs. How Horace Mann changed his opinion of the schools of Boston, after a visit to Europe! There are many who see the need of great changes in our schools. If we regard them as perfect, no effort will be made to improve them. It seemed to us in bad taste for the high praise of our schools to come from such a source. There is a good old proverb, "Let another man praise thee and not thine own mouth, a stranger and not thine own lips." It seemed also impolitic and in bad taste for a deputy, just in the receipt of the appointment of a State Superintendent, to publish a report extolling his superior officer. It creates in the minds of readers the impression that his appointments are uncertain, and that this, to us, unusual course is taken to strengthen his cause. If there is an uncertainty as to his reappointment, we hope no one will be appointed from any consideration but his fitness for so important a position. No men in our State have it in their power to do more good and promote the interests of our State more than our State, county and city school Superintendents. They should be well educated, upright, decided men, having opinions which they will fearlessly express. They should be men quick to see the needs of the State in matters of education, and ready to advocate these needs; leaders, not followers; candid men, not with a different side for every man they meet. Such a man, cultivated and unselfish, realizing the greatness of his work, will be worth more annually to our State than hundreds of thousands of dollars. A good and great man should be appointed to the office of State Superintendent of Schools. The Deputy's remarks that "such a system of schools"—technical schools—"might be made almost, if not altogether, self-sustaining," is, in our opinion, entirely incorrect, and suited to mislead the people. If such a result as the public schools are established with any such a belief, disappointment will follow. A knowledge of what such schools have cost—in many cases vast sums—for buildings, land, machinery, apparatus, museum, library, material for work, the number and character of the instructors demanded, is sufficient to show that any such expectation will not be met, unless the school is intended for those only who can pay high rates of tuition. If for the rich, then let the rich establish and support them, as is done by a very wealthy clergyman at Newstead House, Yorkshire, England, who has at great expense established such a school, and charges one hundred pounds per year. We have some experience in our Agricultural College, showing the great cost of schools where labor is to be performed and the cost of sustaining them. After the expenditure of probably nearly one and a half millions on this college, it is in debt, with about fifty students. The object is to teach how to work, not to earn money. The few hours of work daily by boys learning how to work, is worth but little. For this reason manual labor schools, as such, have never been a success. We have no superior wisdom which will enable us to do for nothing what elsewhere, in the United States and in Europe, has cost large sums of money. G.

Suppression of Quacks.

A bill has been introduced in the Senate of Tennessee providing for the establishment of a State Board of Physicians, to issue licenses to all the physicians practicing in the State. It provides for the establishment in each grand division of the State of a board of regular physicians, who shall have authority to meet annually at Knoxville, Nashville and Memphis, to grant licenses to physicians and fix the fees therefor, when the same are not already fixed by law; to prescribe a course of reading for those studying medicine under private instruction; to grant licenses to practice particular branches of medicine or to treat particular diseases, and to grant license to apothecaries. The bill also provides that physicians who practice medicine or surgery for fee or reward in violation of this act shall be liable to an indictment and fine of five hundred dollars for the first offense, and imprisonment not to exceed three months for the second offense, the fine to go to the school fund. Druggists violating the proposed law are to be fined from five hundred dollars to one thousand dollars. Physicians now practicing are exempt from the provisions of the bill, and those of any other than the regular school will be allowed to practice upon their diplomas.

True philanthropy. The New York Prison Association last year procured employment for nine hundred discharged prisoners who were desirous of reforming.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The path of duty is the path of glory:
He that ever following her commands,
On with toil of heart, and knees and hands,
Through the long gorge to the far light, has won
His way upward and prevailed,
Shall find the topping crags of duty, scaled,
Are close upon the shining table-lands
To which our God Himself is moon and sun.

That Saratoga agreement—where is it?

And now it is proposed in New York to have an O'Connell centennial.

Now it is Rev. James Boss, of Paw Paw, Michigan. But it is only forgery.

The New York *Tribune* will get into its new building on the first of May.

The first shipment of corn in sacks has just been made from New Orleans to Germany.

At Mount Washington the other night, the wind went on a tear at the rate of 140 miles an hour.

The West Virginia Legislature thinks of wheeling the State capital from Charleston to Wheeling.

Possibly it might be well to shut Schumaker up in an idiot asylum until his memory returns.

Won't the opposition press please give us a respite from editorials on the imminent risk of Cæsarism?

The total valuation, real and personal, of Chicago, is set down at $311,518,840. Debts and mortgages not stated.

The New York *Tribune* is a Northern Saul guarding the clothes of the men who murder the black Stephen.

The laborers on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, in West Virginia, threaten to strike for an increase of pay.

The English theatrical censor is going to reform the strip and strut drama, or perish in the attempt. He will probably perish.

Pembina, the name of the new Territory proposed to be formed out of the Northern part of Dakota, is pronounced Pembi-*naw*.

The general prosperity enjoyed in Ireland the past year, would seem to argue that Irish grievances are imaginary rather than real.

It is expected that Conway's forthcoming biography of the Devil will place him before the Democracy in a new and attractive light.

Dreadful. There are in New York, Jersey City and Brooklyn, four thousand people whose entire business in life is to commit crime.

The Philadelphia night schools have had, during the past year, twenty-one thousand five hundred persons of all ages enrolled as students.

A Newburyport, Mass., young man has just sold for $30,000 a patch of land that cost him but $300 a few years ago. Cause, the silver-mine mania.

A New York letter writer calls woman "the fourth theological virtue." Nonsense: She is the eighth capital sin, which embraces all the others.

The disasters to the British marine during the past month have been unparalleled in number and severity. Six vessels, and 628 lives, were totally lost.

Unless there is a change of weather soon, a stoppage of mills and manufactories in New York and throughout New England, from drought, is inevitable.

Poor New York. The Canadians are preparing to take the lake trade from her, as Philadelphia, and Baltimore, and Boston are taking the trade by rail.

Men of letters live long in Boston. All the postmasters of that city who have held office since 1820 are still living, and may be seen occasionally in the streets.

Lieutenant Wheeler, the Western explorer, says no more excitement is justified by the discovery of a silver mine in Colorado than of a coal bed in our own State.

"Tell me where is Fancy bred?" An ex-union soldier of Maine has a piece of gingerbread which he bought while a prisoner at Andersonville during the late war.

The "Rochester and Montreal Steamboat Company" are going to build four steamers, two to run from Charlotte to Ogdensburg, and two from Ogdensburg to Montreal.

The cheap passenger train experiment tried on the railroad between Boston and Lynn, has met with sufficient success to warrant the company in continuing the plan.

The Pacific Mail Directors are now instituting an investigation of their own. They appear convinced that $1,250,000 of the subsidy fund was lost by President Stockwell in speculations.

A New York correspondent describes Theodore Tilton as "a man who is a vitrified mass of thawless ice, and is soon to dissolve into cold ashes." Bless us, what a singular being!

The people of the Pacific coast have become thoroughly convinced that the highest prosperity rests on manufactures, and are continually engaging in new enterprises of that kind.

An entire Gallo-Roman city, which was swallowed up in the neighborhood of Fourvieres, France, by an earthquake in the year 800, has just been stumbled upon by some railroad excavators.

The police of New York, Brooklyn and Jersey City last year arrested 10,000 people for theft, 10,000 for assault and battery, and 50,000 for intoxication, drunkenness being responsible for much of the crime.

If Congress does not "rectify" matters by granting women suffrage before July 4, 1876, the National Women Suffrage Association threatens to possess the Centennial City on that historic date and protest.

PERSONAL.

The second daughter of Hon. George M. Parsons, of Columbus, Miss Lizzie, recently clandestinely married the elder son of an English peer, Mr. Jasper Milner-Gibson. The Ohio papers say the marriage was against the wishes of parents on both sides.

Gossips will be inconsolable if the report proves true that Mr. Reeves, the editor of Greville's Memoirs, has been prevailed upon to suppress the unpublished portions. Such a lively book must have raised a breeze in England, considering its revelations about royalty and nobility.

At George W. Childs' last "Saturday night," there were present President Grant, General W. W. Belknap (Secretary of War), Postmaster General Jewell, Attorney General Williams, Hon. John Scott, Governor Hartranft, ex-Governor Joel Parker, of New Jersey, the Earl of Caithness (Scotland), Lord Roseberry, Mr. Hepworth Dixon, Du Chaillu, John W. Garrett, President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railway, the Congressional Centennial Committee, Hon. Asa Packer, and many officers of the army and navy.

The simplicity of Governor Beveridge, of Illinois, and of his wife, has completely won the heart of the Grangers of that State. This is what the State Farmers' Association resolved about them the other day:

Resolved, That we heartily approve of the example set by Governor Beveridge and his wife at the reception last evening, by their plain and unostentatious attire, and simple, cordial address. We commend it because in accordance with our republican institutions.

That is such a compliment, we venture to affirm, as was never paid to Mr. and Mrs. Cincinnatus.

A wide circle of readers and admirers, will hear with concern of the serious and probably fatal illness of Mr. William S. Robinson, of Massachusetts, so well known as a journalist, over the signature "Warrington." His physical system has shown tokens of growing feebleness for several years, and, at the instance of friends, he spent most of last year in rest and leisurely travel in Europe, and returned in October, without much change, but able to resume his writing, in all his old spirit, and with its best effect. A few weeks ago, his physical troubles, which seem simply a feebleness of the nervous system, have grown upon him, and he is now lying at the point of death.

The following is a pen-photograph of Beecher, as he appeared to a New York correspondent at the great scandal trial: "His head is unusually large, his forehead receding on a gradual arc, the top of his head almost flat, and the *cerebellum* extravagantly developed. The line between the crown of his head and the top of his ear is unusually long. Unusually long also is the line between his ear and the extreme rear point of the *cerebellum*. His nose is broader than the length warrants, and the top of it is flattened and slightly upturned. The upper lip is very long, as long as Thackeray's, but much thicker and fleshier. The under lip, which is likewise thick and pulpy, protrudes just a little. But the peculiar deformity of the face consists in the jowl or triple chin, which makes his throat look like a swollen dewlap. This wrinkled mass of fat completely hides up the normally curved interval between his actual chin and his Adam's apple. The eyes are the redeeming feature of the whole face. They are bluish-gray—a true sea-color, and in their shifting depths one can discover all the buoyancy, all the wit, all the pathos, all the poor humanity that have conspired to make Beecher what he is. His face is mottled with a hundred patches of color. For instance, the front of his forehead is white and wholesome, but over each eye there is a blotch of purple, running into edges of scarlet. On the side of each cheek are other scarlet patches crossed and interlaced by numbers of minute purple veins. The base of his nose is furiously red.

THE NEW FINANCE BILL.

Senator Sherman in Its Defense.

The *Financier* publishes the following letter from Senator Sherman on the new Currency bill:

As I am a subscriber to the *Financier*, you will probably allow me to express my surprise at the course you have pursued in regard to the Finance bill recently passed by Congress. Claiming as you do to be a "monetary and business" journal, it might be expected that you would treat fairly a measure affecting so greatly the interests you represent. In this case you have not done it. You treated it as a political trick—an evasion—a disgrace to Congress. You complained that it was passed without debate, and that its inception and passage was shameful. But, as you said in your last number, "that it is well to examine it hopefully to find what good may be done, if any, although from a bad motive," I take the liberty to correct errors even in your "hopeful" view of the law, so that you may be more hopeful still.

You assume that the Secretary of the Treasury is not authorized to issue five per cent. gold bonds to prepare for and to maintain resumption, because the amount of five per cents authorized in the act of 1870 is nearly exhausted. This is one error. The Secretary can issue either four, four and one-half, or five per cent. gold bonds to an amount sufficient to execute the law. The act of 1870 is only referred to for the description of the bonds to be issued, and the only limit to the amount is the sum necessary, and the only limit to their sale is that they must not be sold at less than par in coin.

You say that one trick of the bill is that there is no provision for carrying on the withdrawal of "legal tenders" after their maximum reaches three hundred million dollars. Now, this "trick" was advocated by you one year ago; it was voted for by every specie paying member of Congress at the last session—and nearly every writer on the subject has contended that if the legal tenders were reduced to three hundred millions, and the Treasury was supported by a reasonable reserve, specie payments could be resumed and maintained. Besides, no one believes that one hundred millions of bank notes will be issued under this act, and this provision only relieves some people of an idle fear of an improbable event. You must have noticed that when banks retire their notes as they have done and will do rapidly, this is a reduction of the currency, while every issue to new or old banks involves a retirement of a ratable amount of United States notes.

What you say about playing with a movable reserve is equally wrong. Neither the fractional currency nor the "eighty-two millions" redeemed can be reissued, and I stated so when the bill was pending under debate, and no lawyer could put a different construction upon the bill. As to any United States notes, a part of the three hundred millions redeemed after resumption of specie payments, we did refuse to provide whether they could be reissued or not, and we acted wisely. When this question is hereafter determined by Congress the controversy will be whether the notes when reissued shall have the legal tender quality, or be simply Treasury notes, receivable for public dues.

Last session the public press scolded at our long and fruitless debate on finances, and I agreed with the press. This session the same Senators, enlightened by the long debate and heeding the call of the press, gave to the subject the most careful and deliberate consideration, and agreed upon this bill without much debate, and yet the press is not happy. The act does not go so far as I wished, but everything in it is right in itself and is in the right direction. Its chief merit is that it establishes a public policy which no political party or faction will be strong enough to overthrow, and which, if it had not been adopted now, the Democratic party in the next Congress would have defeated. The pretense that the Democratic party, as represented in the next House, would have favored any bill for specie payments is utterly false. Therefore, the measure grants to the Secretary of the Treasury powers enough to execute it, but, it we can secure the aid of a Democratic House, we can make it more effective.

Very truly yours,
JOHN SHERMAN.

HORSE DISEASE IN DETROIT.

A New Malady Prevailing—Its Characteristics, and Wherein it Differs from the Epizootic

From the Detroit Post, January 15.

For some days past rumors of a prevailing disease among horses have been current on the streets, the statement generally being that the epizootic, which caused the death of so many horses two years ago, temporarily unfitting nearly every horse in this had other cities from work of any kind, and attacked the horses in many livery and other stables, where many of them were kept. The malady prevailing at present bears no relationship to the epizootic, although some of the earlier symptoms are similar. The horse manifests weak legs, and, staggering as he walks, refuses to eat, the eye loses its luster, the hair its glossiness, the head hangs downward and is apparently raised with considerable difficulty, and the breathing is hard and stertorous. There is, however, no swelling in the throat nor copious yellowish discharge from the nostrils, as in the epizootic. Many physicians who have investigated it generally agree that this disease is a species of influenza, which soon develops into low fever. It is very dangerous unless treated at once. The doctors say that as soon as the disease becomes manifest the animal should be freed from work, rubbed dry, blanketed, stabled in a dry, light apartment, and a veterinary surgeon summoned at once. With a pardonable regard for their foes, they decline to give the course of medical treatment that would be followed.

Many stables have not yet been attacked, but our reporter yesterday visited several of the larger ones. Some of the proprietors refuse to answer any questions; some deny that any of their animals are sick, and others speak freely about it. One man, who has a large number of horses in his charge, declared that he had not had a sick horse this winter; but a wholly reliable gentleman who lives opposite the stable, informed our reporter that nearly one-half of the horses there were sick, and that six dead ones had been carted away within the last ten days. At Hendrie & Co.'s stables two horses had died, and others have been sick, but the latter have now fully or nearly recovered. His does not apprehend any more cases. Dr. Foster, the partner of Dr. Farrand, lost a valuable horse a few days since, and one of Dr. Farrand's span is sick, but recovering. Several cases are reported at the street car stables, but prompt treatment and good care had generally resulted in the recovery of the animals. A few dray and hack horses have died, and many are now sick, but the fatalities have mostly occurred where the animal was kept at work after the disease had fully developed.

Unlike the epizootic, the prevailing malady, which is called "horse influenza," is not contagious; at least such is the opinion of those who have investigated it most fully. In some stables only a solitary case has developed; in others the horses stabled on either side of a sick one have not been attacked, while another at the other end of the stable, fell a victim. The decision of the doctors is that the disease is, in all cases, contracted from the atmosphere, the weather for the past two months being unusually injurious to horses.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

TUESDAY EVENING, January 26, 1875.

Since our last report there has been no change in rates in the loan market. During the day considerable amounts of paper were sold by out of town parties to the banks that had a surplus of loanable funds.

To those who can bring good commercial paper there is little difficulty in negotiating for money at moderate rates, although we hear very much about the tightness of the money market.

The stock market has been steady during the day. Pacific Mail closes at an advance of ½, Western Union ½. Wabash is unchanged at 15¾, and Northwest is up ½, notwithstanding the refusal of the United States Court to advance the Wisconsin railway case upon its docket, in order to obtain an early decision defining the power of a State Legislature to regulate railroad freight and passenger charges. The question is likely to come up before the Court in the regular way in a few days. The case of the Winona and St. Peter Railway was entered upon the docket about two years ago, and is expected to be in the February call. The validity of the Minnesota law of 1871 regulating the maximum charges allowed to railroads is the point involved, no expressed constitutional reservation of the power thus exercised having existed at the time when the company's charter was granted.

The State District Court decided in favor of the railroad, but the Supreme Court of the State overruled the decision and affirmed the binding force of the law. It is to be hoped that the question may be speedily met and decided by the court of last resort.

A city correspondent writes as that a customer has sent him in a note to cover his account, the note being correctly written in words, but the amount in figures being incorrect, and asks if he has the right to make the necessary correction, or whether the maker can refuse payment at maturity if the error is corrected. To which we reply that it has been decided that the holder of a note has the right to supply any omission, and to correct any obvious error of this sort; but as the words in the body of the note, and not the figures in the corner, govern the contract, the change is not a "necessary correction." The note is all right as it is; let it alone.

The following stocks were sold last evening, by A. McIlwaine, auctioneer, at his sale-room, 100 Smithfield street: 1 M. and M. National Bank.....$5 00
1 Allemannia Insurance Company.....5 00

The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the St. Clair Banking Company, No. 16 Sixth street:

January 26, 1875.	10:30 M.	11:30 M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:00 P. M.
Gold	112¾	112¾	112¾	112¾	112¾	112¾
Money						
U. S., 6s, 1881, coup.	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
5's, 1881	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
5's, 1867	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
5's, 1865	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
5's, 1867, new	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
5's, 1887	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
10's, coupons	117½	117¾		117¾		117¾
6's, 1881, coupons	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
5's, 1881, coupons	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
5's, 1867, coupons	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
5's, 1865, coupons	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
10's, coupons	117½	117¾		117¾		117¾
6's, 1881, new	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
5's, 1881, new	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
5's, 1867, new	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
5's, 1865, new	119½	119¾		119¾		119¾
10's, new	117½	117¾		117¾		117¾
Currency 6's	122½	122¾		122¾		122¾
Pacific Mail	34½	34¾	34¾	34¾		34¾
Western Union Tel.	72¾	73	73¼	73¼		73¼
Wells, Fargo & Co.	93					
Pacific Mail	34½	34¾	34¾	34¾		34¾
Adams Express	99		100			
American Express	63		63			
United States Express	63½		63½			
New York Central	92¾	92¾	92¾	92¾	92¾	92¾
Erie	18	18¼	18¼	18¼	18¼	18¼
Michigan Central	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾		93¾
Michigan Southern	73½	73¾	73¾	74	74	74
Illinois Central	97¾	97¾	97¾			
Cleveland & Pittsburg	87¾	87¾	87¾			
Toledo & Wabash	44½	44¾	44¾	44¾	44¾	44¾
Do. preferred						89¾
Rock Island	103¾	103¾				103¾
St. Paul, common	37¾	37¾	37¾	37¾	37¾	37¾
Do. preferred	67¾	67¾	67¾	67¾		67¾
Wabash, common	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾
Fort Wayne						97¾
Ohio & Mississippi	28¾	28¾	27¾	28¾	28¾	28¾
Ohio Central	30¾	31	30¾	30¾	30¾	30¾
Harlem						
Hannibal & St. Jos.						71
Do. preferred						74½
Atlantic and Pacific						
Iron Mountain	25	25¼	25¼			
C., C. & I. C.	77	77	77			
Vanderbilt, old						
Do. new						
South Carolina, April	62	62				
Do. July	62	63				
Missouri 6's	90	90				

The following is a report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire by us to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Central	53¾	
Pennsylvania Central scrip	10¾	
Reading	50¾	50¾
United Companies of N. Jersey	130¾	130¾
Lehigh Valley	61¾	62
Allegheny Valley		90
Central Transportation	43¾	44
Empire Transportation	43	
P., C. & St. Louis m. b. notes	82¾	
Oil Creek, sales	15¾	

GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, TUESDAY, January 26, 1874.

The markets to-day were generally quiet and unchanged. Trade movements were steady but sluggish, the lower rates for money being the principal cause. Values were materially unchanged.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce by rail since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	1,956	Apples, bbls	67
Corn, sks	1,080	Wheat, sks	2,235
Barley, sks	180	Oats, sks	825
Butter, pkgs	1,000	Bacon, lbs	38,000
Bacon, tcs	142	Hay, bales	58

The following quotations are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. Purchasers usually obtain a shade in advance. Prices of grain, unless otherwise specified, are free in elevator.

GRAIN, FLOUR AND FEED.

GRAIN.—There is a moderate request in the market, although quite fairly active. Prices are steady and firm. We quote choice Kentucky white in bulk, 1 bushel, $1 35 @ 1 40; choice Michigan white $1 25@1 27; Ohio and Illinois ditto $1 20@1 22; Ohio and Pennsylvania red wheat $1 16@1 18. Corn is steady, sales are at 98@99c per bushel for high-mixed, 76@77c for low-mixed. Hay is in good demand, and is fairly quotable at 72@76c on track. Oats are steady with a light stock, and prices are firm. We quote at 64@65c per bushel for mixed. Rye and barley are unchanged.

FLOUR.—There continues a very satisfactory, but there is no appreciable improvement in the market. The following are the wholesale jobbing prices for the trade: Extra No. 1 white wheat $7 50 @ 8 00; No. 1 amber wheat do $6 50 @ 7 00; straight flour $6 in sacks per cwt or $7 per bbl, the jobbing prices of dealers are nominally unchanged, but would be somewhat shaded on large lots. Superfine.....

HAY.—Market somewhat firmer. We quote prime timothy, on track at $22 00@23 00; choice, No. 1, do $20 00@21 00; inferior $15 00@18 00; baled hay from store is quoted at $22 00@24 00. Loose hay is selling at $20 00@22 00 for No. 1; $15 00@17 00 for No. 2; straw is quoted at $15 00@16 00 @ ton. Receipts are unprecedented being 3,535 bales for the past week.

MILL FEED.—Bran is in fair demand at $1 10@1 15 @ cwt; shorts at $1 20@1 30 @ cwt; middlings at $1 30@1 40 @ cwt; chop $1 50@1 60 @ cwt; oilmeal $1 90@2 00 @ cwt.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

APPLES.—The market is dull at $2 25 for extra choice; $1 75@3 00 for prime; $1 00@1 25 for common to medium. On large sales these prices would have to be shaded.

BEANS.—The demand is light and supply limited. We quote at $1 90@2 00 @ bushel for prime; $2 25; medium $1 80@1 90; fair to good $1 50 @1 70.

BUTTER.—Continues dull and weak at 25@28c for choice yellow; 18@20c for medium; 12@16c for common.

BUCKWHEAT.—Prime yellow beeswax is quoted at 30@35c @ lb, in round lots; sales in a jobbing way are made at 34@35c @ lb.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR.—Buckwheat flour is rather easy, and in large supply at $3 50@3 75 @ cwt; $7 00 @ bbl; self-rising buckwheat flour is quoted, in 6 lb packages, at $4 20 @ doz packages.

CAKE.—We quote as follows: Denison—saddles 1,000 lbs, wide does 1,000 lbs; Cuthbert chickens $5 50@3 75 @ doz; pheasants $3 50@4 00 per doz; quail $1 50@1 50 @ brace; ducks $3 00@4 00 @ pair; squirrels 33@35c @ pair; wild turkeys $1 25@1 50 each; prairie chickens $3 00@3 50 @ pair.

FEATHERS.—Are quoted as follows: No. 1, @ lb, 55@57c; mixed lots, 50@55c in a jobbing way. No. 2, @ lb, 30@35c, as to quality.

MIXED MEAL.—Is quoted at $1 @ lb in a jobbing way.

POTATOES.—Trade is rather dull, and is almost entirely in a jobbing way from store. We quote at 60@65c @ bushel for prime peachblows from store; medium grades 55@60c @ bushel.

POULTRY.—The market is weak and lower. Quotations are, at retail, for chickens, 12@14c for turkeys.

PEACHES AND DRIED FRUIT.—We quote dried apples at 5@6c @ lb; dried blackberries 10c @ lb; dried peaches are quoted at 8@9c @ lb for choice halves and 6@7c for quarters; peeled 25@30c @ gallon. Honey is active and firm at 35c @ lb for clover; buckwheat blossom 25c @ lb. Medium pickles are quoted at $9 00 @ bbl; $5 00 @ half bbl; spiced.

VINEGAR.—The market is dull, and there are few sales. We quote in a jobbing way at 13@16c @ gallon for prime; inferior 10@12c.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, TUESDAY, January 27, 1875.

The market yesterday was strong for crude and showed an advance over former quotations of about 2¼c per barrel, some sales having been made as high as $1 16¼ for United at wells. Refined was quiet and rather drooping.

CRUDE.

We quote United at wells at $1 13¾@1 16¼; Pennsylvania do $1 12¾@1 13¾; Union do, $1 17¾@1 20; immediate shipment $1 32½@1 35. Sales at Parkers are reported as follows:

2,000 bbls, United, at wells.....$1 14¾
1,500 bbls, United, at wells.....1 15
1,000 bbls, United, at wells.....1 16¼
2,500 bbls, Pennsylvania, at wells.....1 12
4,000 bbls, Penn-sylvania, at wells.....1 12½
2,000 bbls, immediate shipment.....1 33½
3,000 bbls, immediate shipment.....1 35

REFINED.

The market for refined is still rather quiet. Refiners show no disposition to press sales at present prices, and with a declining market at the principal seaboard points the demand is not strong. We quote at 9½@9¾c for standard white on the cars.

New York—Refined is quoted at 11¾@12c for prompt delivery.

Philadelphia—Refined spot is quoted at 12c.

OIL BARRELS

are dull but unchanged. We quote at $1 35 for city, and $1 20@1 25 for country.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

TITUSVILLE, January 26.—The *Courier* says: The market was firm throughout the day, with an advance over the closing market on Saturday. During the day, as will be seen, United at the wells sold as high as $1 16¾, but was, perhaps, a little easier at the close. Sales:

1,000 bbls, upper road, spot.....$1 28½
500 bbls, upper road, spot.....1 40
3,000 bbls, Oil City, spot.....1 40
3,000 bbls, river district, United, at wells.....1 14½
1,500 bbls, river district, United, at wells.....1 15
1,000 bbls, river district, United, at wells.....1 16¾
2,500 bbls, river district, Penn'a, at wells.....1 12
4,000 bbls, river district, Penn'a, at wells.....1 12½
2,000 bbls, river district, immediate ship-

ment.....1 33½
3,000 bbls, river district, immediate shipment.....1 35

New York, January 26, closing 25.—Shippers still operate with much reserve, causing a quiet market; receivers are not pressing business, and nothing but resales of contracts are reported available at quoted prices. Crude in bulk is quoted at 6½c asked, and 6½c bid; sales 1,000 bbls late yesterday at 6 3-16c; refined 13¼@13½c; sales 17@17½c for shipment; city naphtha 9½c. Philadelphia delivery quiet and steady, with refined quoted at 11½@12c.

TITUSVILLE, January 26.—Market quiet and firm at $1 27½@1 40.

OIL CITY, January 26.—Market nominally at $1 25@1 35.

ROUSEVILLE, January 26.—Market quiet and nominal at $1 30@1 22½.

PETROLEUM CENTRE, January 26.—Market quiet; held at $1 20.

TIDIOUTE, January 26.—Market firm $1 02½ bid.

PARKERS, January 26.—Market quiet and steady; United $1 15¾@1 16; Union $1 27½ shipment $1 32½@1 35.

PHILADELPHIA, January 26.—Market quiet; Standard white 12c; crude 6c; cases 10½c; Naphtha and sales not quoted.

Crude Oil Received by A. V. R. R.

Shipper.	Consignee.	Bbls.
Duncan	Commo O W	457
Greer & Camp	Riverside O W	500
Lockhart & P	Brilliant O W	480
Total		837

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, TUESDAY, January 26, 1875.

REMARKS.—We have but little to say with regard to the markets to-day. Eastern advices are that the cattle and hog market is over active on a rumor that Commodore Vanderbilt will pay the February dividend at Cleveland, irrespective of the action of the Supreme Court of this State. The transactions aggregated 130,000 shares, of which 5,000 were Pacific Mail, 28,000 Western Union, 6,500 Northwestern common, 5,000 Rock Island, 10,000 Lake Shore, 10,000 Ohio and Mississippi, and 17,000 Union Pacific. The following were the closing quotations:

Canton	62¼	Do preferred	89¾
Pacific Tel	72¾	Toledo & Wabash	44¾
Quicksilver	32½	Do preferred	89¾
Adams Express	99	Ft. Wayne	98
Wells Fargo Express	92	Terre Haute	7
American Express	63	Do preferred	20
U. S. Express	59½	Chicago & Alton	103½
Pacific Mail	34¾	Do preferred	109
New York Central	102¾	Ohio & Mississippi	27¾
Erie	18¼	Cleve., Col. & Cin	64
Do preferred	49	Burlington & Q	103¾
Harlem	128	Lake Shore	74½
Do preferred	125	Panama	108½
Mich. Central	93½	Illinois Central	97¾
Cleveland & Pitts	87¾	Union Pacific, st'k	67
Northwestern	44¾	Central Pacific bds	95¾
Do preferred	89¾	Union Pacific bds	92½
Rock Island	103½	St. Paul	36¾
N. J. Central	106¾	Bankers' Bills	4.87
St. Paul	37¼		

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Buffalo.

BUFFALO, January 26.—Cattle—Receipts 2,175 head; total for the week 9,807 head. Market steady and strong and active at unchanged prices. Sheep and lambs—Receipts 6,000 head; total for the week 1,200 head. Market opened dull and dragging; yards full of stock; buyers and shippers doing a large business. Prices generally unchanged. Hogs—Receipts 5,600 head; total for the week 11,200 head. Market moderately active; Yorkers and heavy hogs dull. About 1,800 head disposed of. Yorkers $5 25@5 90; heavy hogs $7 00@7 25; light pigs not wanted at any price.

Watertown.

WATERTOWN, January 26.—Cattle—Receipts 675 head. Market quiet; choice $10 75; extra $9 75@10 50; first quality $9 00@9 50; second do $8 00@8 50; third do $5 00@6 50.

Sheep and lambs—Receipts 1,894 head. Trade slow and prices declined 25@50c; sales in lots at $2 50@3 50 each; extra $3 75@6 00; fancy sheep $6 00.

St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, January 26.—Hogs strong; Yorkers $5 70@6 25, packing $5 25@7 00. Cattle weak with little demand; prime to choice native steers $3 75@6 00; common to good $1 25@3 00.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, January 26.—Business was moderate in the jobbing trade, and the importing and jobbing branches continued quiet. Heavy and fine brown cottons were active and firm. Medium bleached shirtings of most popular makes in good demand and firm. Print cloths very strong and advancing. Paciffic and Dunnell light prints opened at 9c. Lancaster and Andrew ginghams selling well. Paciffic percales active. Woolen goods were in moderate request.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN STEAMERS.

DATE OF DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK.

Russia.....January 27.....Liverpool.
Silesia.....January 28.....Havre.
Idaho.....January 30.....Glasgow.
Republic.....January 30.....Liverpool.

FROM BOSTON.

Atlas.....January 30.....Liverpool.

FROM PHILADELP

THE
Pittsburgh Daily Commercial,
GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE.
Now is the Time to Subscribe.

The conductors of the COMMERCIAL have for some time contemplated a Reduction in the Price of the Paper to Subscribers, where delivered by Carriers or Agents, and now announce that from and after MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1875, the terms to such will be

Fifteen Cents Per Week.

Leave your orders for the Carrier at the Counting Room of this office.

CITY MATTERS.

FOR one dollar per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed daily to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 24, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., January 26, 1875.

Time.	Bar.	Ther.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A.M.	30.54	13	81	..	Calm.	Fair.
2 P.M.	30.43	25	74	W.	Gentle.	Fair.
9 P.M.	30.69	22	72	..	Calm.	Foggy.

Mean barometer....30.44. Highest thermom....27
Mean thermom.....30. Lowest thermom.....12

Assets of the City.

Controller Snodgrass and his efficient clerks are busily engaged in preparing a schedule of the assets of the city in the way of public works, buildings, real estate, &c., and will publish the same in a few days. The short time allowed for the work makes it impossible that the figures can be accurate, but an approximate idea of the wealth of the corporation may be gained. The list will be corrected and made complete as soon as possible, and hereafter a record of property purchased, sold, &c., will be kept.

Personal.

Mr. J. C. Conroy, general agent for the Diamond Pointed Agitating Grate, patented by Mr. J. B. Larkin, of this city, is desirous of securing local agents in every county in this State, who will push the claims of the meritorious invention designated. The Larkin "Agitator" is undoubtedly the best grate of the kind ever introduced, and is so highly appreciated by those who have tested it that, in the language of one of the number, they "would not be without it for double its cost." Mr. Conroy is prepared to explain the *modus operandi* of the agitating grate, at his office and salesrooms, Nos. 63, 65 and 67 Anderson street, Allegheny, or at No. 304 Liberty street, this city.

New Narrow Gauge Railroad.

The people of Chartiers and Ten Mile Valleys are now at work in the matter of building a narrow gauge railroad from Washington, Pennsylvania, south, to Sparta, a distance of sixteen miles. This road will run up Chartiers creek to its head waters, cross over the summit at Bethel Church, and down Ten Mile creek, by way of Prosperity and Sparta, to the Wheeling Divide, or summit, between Washington and Green counties, with the best prospects of being built to Winona, a distance of seven miles farther, at the same time. The country through which this road will pass is one of the richest in the State, and no doubt the road, when built, will be one of the most successful narrow gauge roads in the State.

The City Printing.

The *Leader* undertakes to refute our position that, under the Wallace act, cities have no right to award the printing bids on the basis of the circulation of the papers offering to do the work. It admits that the word "responsible" means only financial ability to complete the work; but holds that the word "lowest" opens the door to the question of circulation. It says:

"The lowest bidder' for a contract is not he who offers to do the work for the cheapest price; it does not mean the man who will do a given piece of work with poor materials for a less price than the man who will do it well with good materials. The 'lowest bidder' is he who offers to give the most value in labor, material or circulation for the lowest price; and this definition would most undoubtedly stand the test of the law."

The idea of putting "circulation," in the printing of a legal notice, on the same footing with "labor and materials," in the construction of a building, is simply absurd. That is begging the question.

The *Leader* has much to say in reference to the objects of public printing, and thinks if its view of the law is not correct, money might be saved by abolishing public advertising altogether. Our purpose was not to quarrel with the law, but to point out the error which was being made in attempting to carry it out. We have asserted that the law does not authorize the councils to award the printing on the basis of circulation, as has been contended by some of our contemporaries. The best answer the *Leader* makes to this, is contained in the paragraph above quoted. We leave the reader to judge who has the best of the argument, without reference to the "short tail" of the COMMERCIAL or the "long ears" of the *Leader*.

The Porosity of Iron.

The casual observer of iron considers it an impact mass, in which the particles are welded to each other. This is a delusion. Science has demonstrated by exhaustive experiments that the particles of iron are not impact, but merely held near each other by virtue of their molecular forces, and between contiguous molecules there exist certain cavities called physical pores.

The greater the porosity of the iron, the more ductile it is, and the less porous, the more rigid it becomes. Hence, it is matter of great importance to the metallurgist to understand the laws which determine the porosity of iron. It is not my purpose now to explain these principles, but rather to call attention to the fact of the porosity of iron.

From recent investigations it has been determined that when iron is galvanically deposited its pores contain very much hydrogen, with more or less carbonic oxide, nitrogen and water, and that it may have included in it as much as 185 times its bulk of these gases, principally hydrogen.

How many students believe this lesson? Reader, do you believe that the pores of one cubic inch of iron galvanically deposited may contain 185 cubic inches of these gases? If we had the Mechanics' High School of Pennsylvania established in our midst, we could at any time give you an ocular demonstration of the fact by unlocking these occluded gases, and burning them in your presence, or by causing them to pass through a meter and measure them accurately, which would not only interest and instruct you, but would leave no room for doubt of the conclusion of gases in iron, nor of its porosity.

How great the realm of science is; how infinitely wonderful its developments? "Its full of glistening gems and precious stones, of priceless gifts and matchless facts, to welcome the explorer. Strike where you will, you'll find the path that leads to knowledge, you'll through flowery fields and fruitful groves to profitable enjoyment.

J. R.

A COOL OPERATION.

A Swindle Perpetrated in Presence of a Constable.

George Coffin, who represented that he was a dealer in produce, and hailed from Cook county, Ohio, perpetrated one of the boldest swindles in the city yesterday that has been recorded for a long time. Yesterday morning he visited the stand of Thomas McGovern, a huckster in the market, and stated to that person that he was a produce dealer, and had a car load of potatoes at the freight depot of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, which he would sell at a very low price, as he was in urgent need of money. Mr. McGovern bought the potatoes, and at the request of Coffin, gave that person fifty dollars to close the bargain. The huckster at once visited the freight depot to look after his potatoes, and was surprised at the information he there received. No such person as Coffin was known at the depot, and not a potato was there for Mr. McGovern. The swindled huckster lost no time in making an information before Alderman McMasters, charging Coffin with obtaining money by false pretenses. The accused was soon discovered and brought before the magistrate, where he agreed to return to Mr. McGovern his ten dollars and pay the costs, if he was permitted to go to a friend and borrow the money. This proposition was accepted to, and Constable James Headin was appointed to accompany Mr. Coffin in his search for a friend. Just here is where the joke comes in. Coffin, accompanied by the officer, visited the livery stable of Mr. W. H. Patterson, where the prisoner called the proprietor to one side, and after a brief private conversation, Mr. Patterson drew forth his wallet and gave Mr. Coffin fifteen dollars. With this money the prisoners returned to the Alderman's office, settled up in full, and was released. In a short time Mr. Patterson put in appearance and inquired after his friend, the produce dealer. When informed that he was gone, he requested the officer to arrest him if possible, as he had swindled him. It appeared, from Mr. P.'s statement, that when Coffin had the private confab with him at the stable, he had represented that he had a car load of corn at the depot, and he had actually obtained the fifteen dollars on the strength of this statement. Diligent search was made last evening for Mr. Coffin, but at last accounts he was still at large. It is not often that we find a man, while in the custody of an officer, committing so bare-faced a swindle—the same crime, in fact, for which he was under arrest.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Formal Opening—Large Attendance—Interesting Addresses.

The Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburgh was formally opened yesterday, and attracted a large attendance, while much interest was manifested in the proceedings. The rooms of the association comprise the whole of the second floor of the commodious, elegant and eligibly located Germania Savings Bank building, corner of Wood and Diamond streets. There are four large rooms and two ante-rooms, and all have been suitably arranged for the convenience of every branch of business. Connection with the wires of the Western Union Telegraph Company has been provided, and daily market and stock reports will be received. Invitations had been issued to merchants and manufacturers in all branches of trade, and the gathering was such as augur well for the success of the Chamber.

THE OFFICERS.

Following is a list of officers for 1875, omitting the names of members of the various committees, which have heretofore been published:

President—Hon. Thomas M. Howe.
Vice Presidents—J. C. Lewis, W. McCreery, J. T. Stockdale, R. S. Waring, J. F. Dravo, Mark Watson, R. J. Anderson.
Secretary—Joseph D. Weeks.
Treasurer—G. W. Hailman.

DIRECTORS.

James I. Bennett, A. M. Marshall, Capt. R. C. Gray, Major Wm. Frew, Addison Lysle, Thos. Wightman, Jas. Park, Jr., J. R. Young, Chas. Meyran, Wm. Rea, T. Brent Swearingen, J. G. Siebeneck, Simon Beymer, Dr. D. Hostetter, Philip Reymer, Chas. Arbuckle, Geo. A. Kelly.

CHAIRMEN OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

On finance—Capt. J. T. Stockdale. On arbitration—J. C. Lewis. On manufactures—Jas. I. Bennett. On transportation—Wm. McCreery. On railroads—Jas. Park, Jr. On rivers and harbors—Capt. Jno. F. Dravo. On membership—Maj. T. Brent Swearingen. On rules—Jos. G. Siebeneck. On rooms—C. Meyran.

MEMBERSHIP.

In the circular issued by the directors the following information is given:

Any person or firm resident in or permanently doing business in Allegheny county may become a member of the Chamber of Commerce on the payment of the membership fee, and the annual assment.

The assessment for the year beginning March 1, 1875, is $10. This entitles the member to one admission to Exchange rooms. Admission tickets for other members of a firm can be had at half the annual assessment, or $5. Applications for membership can be made to the Committee on Membership or the Secretary.

The rooms will be open from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M. The hour for Change will be from 12 M. to 1 P. M.

Applications to rent desk room and room for sample cases can be made to the Chairman of Committee on Rooms.

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE.

Never before, probably, in the history of Pittsburgh did so many of her merchant princes meet together at one time in social intercourse as between the hours of eleven and two o'clock yesterday. After an examination of the rooms and an inspection of the facilities provided, the company about noon was invited to an elegant lunch, served up, by Youngson in one of the rooms below. For two hours the "feeding" was kept up and all comers were bounteously supplied. All were made welcome, and everybody did justice to the occasion.

A noticeable feature in the rooms was the sale of tickets for the great concert by the Gounod Club for the benefit of the Ladies' Relief Society. Messrs. Harris and Breed and the other gentlemen managing this charitable affair made a lucky hit, and the merchants responded liberally for tickets.

ADDRESS.

When the major portion of those in attendance had satisfied their appetites, order was called in the large room, and some pleasant speeches were made. Mr. John F. Dravo, who was Master of Ceremonies, announced that the President, Hon. Thos. M. Howe, was confined to his home by illness. Secretary Weeks then read a letter of regret from Mr. Howe.

Mr. Dravo was then called upon for a speech, and he responded in his usual happy style. He alluded to the vast importance of the enterprise which was this day organized. It was proposed, said the speaker, to make the Chamber of Commerce the Parliament of the commercial interests of Pittsburgh an institution of which the city might be proud. Moreover the success thereof is dependent upon the citizens of Pittsburgh and Allegheny. Said Mr. Dravo, have vigorous energy, pride and determination enough to make it a success? United effort alone can make the Chamber of Commerce what it ought to be. We ought to have a membership of at least five thousand, and I consider that he who will not support it ought to be ostracised and deprived of citizenship in so great a city as Pittsburgh. We want no sham, starved, bantling, but a strong, vigorous organization that shall be known all over the land. All trade is necessarily settled on the basis, at least, the best basis of trade is such that associations confide the future prosperity of the city into the hands of the mercantile community rather than into the hands of a successful few. In closing the speaker congratulated the merchants of Pittsburgh on the formation of the Chamber of Commerce.

Major William Frew, in response to calls, said he hoped that no gentleman present had come here for the sake of the lunch. [Laughter.] The speaker predicted for the Chamber a career of success—it had been commenced right, and we had the material to make it a success. Major Frew alluded to the Committee of Arbitration, which, in itself, would be of vast benefit to us. Then he hoped that the time would come when we should have a Court of Arbitration, presided over by a law judge, before which all differences in regard to business should be settled promptly and justly. There is another thing. Pittsburgh has had no organization which was respected at Harrisburg or Washington. If we voiced any measures adopted for the interests of our city, there was no center or organization which could be brought to bear to accomplish this object—hereafter it would be different. Major Frew closed by urging that every business house in the city have a representative in the Chamber of Commerce, at least an hour every day.

Chancellor Wood, of the Western University, was next called upon, and said that although he had not prepared any address, he felt that any one who spoke to so large and intelligent an audience as this ought to have something to say. He thought this was an illustration of the truth of the adage that from good offers comes evil. There have been of late many dark days in the history of Pittsburgh, but the light now begins to appear. The Chancellor urged that there should be a text-book, in the interests of protection, published and distributed among the workingmen of Pittsburgh. He hoped that the Chamber of Commerce would do something to disseminate sound views on this question.

Dr. Hostetter was called for, but failed to respond, and Mr. Dravo said, being a Methodist, he'd like this to become an experience meeting. This proposal was greeted with applause, but no one was found ready to give his experience. Dr. Hostetter was again called, and only rose and said that he "had never made a speech in his life, and didn't think he ever would."

It was then agreed to adjourn until today, between the hours of twelve and one.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

James A. Wible and Alexander English, partners as Wible & English, of Millvale, Allegheny county, filed a voluntary petition for the adjudication of themselves in bankruptcy.

H. T. Chaffey, bankrupt, Warren county: an order was made waiving publication of notice of composition meeting in the Warren *Ledger*.

Geo. S. Long and H. A. Pennock, of Petrolia City, Butler county, filed a petition for the adjudication in bankruptcy of themselves, and the matter was referred to Register Shafer.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judge Stowell.

On motion of Colonel Thomas M. Bayne, Hon. James S. Rutan, of Beaver, and on motion of F. M. Magee, J. R. Harrah, Esq., of the same place, were admitted and qualified to practice in the Common Pleas Court of Allegheny county.

The case of Reiter & Co. vs. A. J. Nellis is still on trial.

There is no change in the trial list previously published.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Kirkpatrick and White.

In the case of W. E. Floss vs. W. A. Bunting, an action for damages for alleged false arrest, the jury found for the plaintiff for $227 77.

Jesse H. Lippincott vs. Steele and Elbinstone; rule granted to show cause why defendants should not file a proper and sufficient affidavit of defense.

In the case of Hatch and wife vs. Michael Graver, the jury is out.

The case of Watson vs. Sheid, which has been on trial before Judge White, was settled by the parties.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Collier.

Benedict Knoerr was convicted of aggravated assault and battery, charged by David Jones.

Timothy Colligan, John Boyle and John Sauers were acquitted of a charge of larceny, preferred by Frederick Worth.

Mary Enright was convicted of a charge of assault and battery, preferred by Thomas H. Devereux.

Thomas Bevely was acquitted of a charge of assault and battery, preferred by Mary Enright.

A *nolle pros* was allowed in each of three cases, of Robert Fife, indicted for false pretenses, on oath of Charles King, Wm. F. Maddox and Edward Alcott.

Thomas Grafton, of South Fayette township, was fined seventy-five dollars and costs for selling liquor without license, charged by R. W. Boyce.

Bridget Hughes was acquitted of a charge of larceny as bailee, preferred by Nellie Bruber.

The jury is out in the case of Robert Barnett, indicted for false pretenses.

The union revival meetings being held in Bethel Liberty are largely attended, and deep interest is manifested.

ALLEGHENY COMMITTEES.

Meetings Last Evening—The Finance Committee—Statements from the Controller—City Property Valuation—Appropriations for the Year—Other Committee Business.

Several of the committees of Allegheny Councils met last evening, the most important of which was the Finance Committee, which heard and acted upon the Controller's statements of the city's financial condition, etc.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The passage of an ordinance for the issue of $40,000 of sewer bonds will be recommended; also, for fixing the bond of the Health Officer at $1,000; also, authorizing the Treasurer to borrow $30,000 to meet current expenses.

The Controller was authorized to purchase $4,000 of Allegheny City (compromise) bonds.

The interest on the daily balances for the month of December is—Franklin Bank $70 37; German Savings Bank, $102 35.

The Controller stated that the redemption of $25,500 of bonds falling due this year had been provided for.

The statement of the Controller of appropriations at the close of the past year was read and approved; also, a comparative statement of the estimated receipts and expenditures and the actual receipts, and a statement showing the interest on the outstanding bonds for the year, were presented.

There will be a reduction of one mill in the tax millage for the present year.

The Controller also presented a statement of the valuation of city taxable property, as follows:

TAXABLE PROPERTY.

First ward	$ 7,090,964
Second ward	10,015,100
Third ward	8,175,833
Fourth ward	3,411,287
Fifth ward	3,911,888
Sixth ward	4,963,885
Seventh ward	3,417,458
Eighth ward	1,275, 60
Ninth ward	2,071,615
Tenth ward	1,823,172
Eleventh ward	1,819,100
Total	$59,088,257

ESTIMATED VALUE OF CITY PROPERTY.

The Controller estimates the value of city property as follows:

Parks	$1,500,000 00
City hall and furniture	125,000 00
Market house and lot	190,000 00
Two lots in the Diamond	100,000 00
Diamond weigh scales	1,500 00
Second ward weigh scales and lot	5,000 00
Wharves and landings	30,000 00
Knap's Battery	4,500 00
Various strips of land	2,500 00
Hospital at Claremont	2,500 00
Delinquent taxes, 1874, less 10 per cent	116,000 00
Delinquent taxes, 1873	4,000 00
Due from various parties	1,700 00
Total assets	$3,767,850 00
Liabilities	1,625,500 00
Assets over liabilities	$2,143,350 00

APPROPRIATIONS.

The appropriations for the present year, for the various departments, are set down as follows:

Salaries	$ 38,125 00
Interest	43,502 00
Fire Department	97,167 00
Printing	10,000 00
Streets	60,000 00
Wharves and landings	2,000 00
Surveys	4,000 00
Police	60,000 00
Contingent fund	21,908 10
Water	30,000 00
Outstanding warrants	2,428 51
Gas	45,000 00
Fund per cent. sinking fund	20,000 00
Interest on wharf bonds	1,950 00
City property	5,000 00
Sanitary	3,000 00
Bills payable	50,000 00
Markets	3,000 00
Park Commission	13,000 00
Sinking fund redemption, 6 per cent. bonds	7,500 00
Redemption city property bonds	3,000 00
Total	$483,687 97

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS.

City taxes	$224,000 00
Business tax	10,015,100
Watch tax	110,000 00
Weigh-scales	7,739 61
Wood and bark	1,515 00
Vehicle license	11,000 00
Sale of ferrules	1,500 00
Fines and forfeitures	4,500 00
Lot regulations	1,518 50
Sewer permits	1,699 50
Ground rents	1,747 92
Interest on unexpended balances	2,940 30
Rent of postoffice	1,800 00
Other sources	1,716 26
Switch license	75 00
Pleasant Valley Railway Company	847 00
Street opening permits	871 56
Collection of school tax	1,500 00
Sundry sources	653 34
Board of Health	265 00
Wharves and landings	1,800 00

The committee adjourned without transacting further business of importance.

WOODEN BUILDINGS.

The Committee on Wooden Buildings met, but transacted no other business than the ordering of an ordinance granting the privilege to erect a frame school building on Somerset's alley, also, to permit Robert M. Blair to erect a frame shop on the corner of Walnut street and River avenue.

POLICE.

The Police Committee directed that an ordinance be prepared for the increase of the force ten men. The City Solicitor was instructed to prepare an ordinance to regulate the disposition of fees for serving warrants by the police. Councils, it appears, passed an ordinance in 1866, requiring these fees to be paid into the hands of a specified party, who continued, nevertheless, to pay them over to the officers serving warrants. Mayor Fleming refused to follow the precedent, and will not pay over the fees, but ceased appeared to be about fifty years of age.

MILITARY.

Review and Inspection of the Duquesne Greys.

Last evening, at the old City Hall, the 18th Regiment (Duquesne Greys), 6th Division, was reviewed and inspected by the division commander, Major General Pearson, and staff. General Browne and staff, Major Gregg, of the 2nd Cavalry, U. S. A., and many other officers, were present in full uniform. The battalion paraded two hundred and twenty-five muskets. After battalion drill, in which both officers and men acquitted themselves in a highly creditable manner, there was dress parade, followed by a review of the command by the General and staff.

The hall was beautifully decorated with flags, etc. The stage and galleries were crowded with ladies, and all the space in the large room not occupied by the battalion was filled with spectators. Many who were late getting there were turned away from the door, it being impossible to provide standing room for them.

The General expressed the highest satisfaction at the marked improvement shown by the regiment since the review of last September.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

There was a full house last night, on the occasion of Mr. Davenport's appearance as *Hamlet*. While some of the fire of younger days is missed, the great actor gives a personation of the Dane which is well nigh above criticism. He was well supported by Mrs. Davenport as the *Queen*, Miss Troy as *Ophelia*, Mr. Ellsler as *Polonius*, Mr. Morrison as the *Ghost* and Mr. Owen as *First Grave-digger*.

To-night Mr. Davenport appears in "St. Mare, the Soldier of Fortune," assisted by the full strength of the support he has had the last two nights.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

All those who can enjoy a first-class variety entertainment—and there are few who cannot—should go during the present week to Trimble's. The company is a very strong one, and everything on the lengthy programme is well done. There will be two performances to-day—matinee and evening.

Concert.

Next Monday evening Mlle. Ilma De Murska and her troupe will give a concert at Library Hall. De Murska is one of the most accomplished cantatrices in the world.

Technical Education.

To Merchants, Manufacturers, Artisans, Farmers, and Generally to the Press of America, Greeting:

For the purpose of promoting the great industries of the United States, in the development of her material resources, and the bettering of the condition of our working people, by a reformation of our educational systems, we ask your assistance in brief replies to the following questions, with permission to publish selections from the same:

1. What, in your opinion, are the most radical defects in our present system of education?

2. How can these defects be remedied?

3. What effect would a wise system of technical education have upon our commercial, manufacturing, mining and agricultural interests?

4. To what extent do other countries absorb our trade? Give instances, and as far as possible statistics.

Address,
C. C. COCHRAN,
Pittsburgh Central High School,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

N. B. Editors who give their views upon the above important subject through their own journals, would very much oblige us by mailing a copy of their issue containing the same.

The City Gas Bill.

The bill of the Pittsburgh Gas Company for light furnished the city during the six months preceding January 1st 1875, has been presented. As is well known, under the contract made at the time of the sale of the works the city gets twelve million feet per year gratis, and for all used over that amount it pays 75 cents per thousand feet. The bill is as follows:

Forges	$15,598 18
Thirty-seven new lamps	1,850 16
Coke furnaces	1,029 27
For repairs	1,148 70
Total	$19,099 15

THE PROCLAMATION.

It Has Been Duly Signed and Sealed, and Delivered to the City Printers—The Mayor's Answer to the Mandamus, etc.

The election muddle was brought up afresh for discussion yesterday, the Mayor, through his attorney, Mr. Woods, having prepared his proclamation, and directed its publication in the official papers. The document was carried to the *Gazette* office, and delivered to the proprietors, or their representatives, in the presence of Judge Mellon, who appeared as a witness. A copy was requested to be furnished to the German paper, the *Freiheits Freund*.

During the afternoon, Mr. Woods filed the following answer in the Court of Common Pleas, No. 1, Judge Sterrett on the bench:

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania vs. James Blackmore, Mayor:

And now, to wit, January 26, 1875, by leave of Court, the defendant, James Blackmore, make and return to the alternative *mandamus* issued in the case, that he did this day send for publication to the Pittsburgh *Gazette* and *Freiheit's Freund*, his proclamation for the election of officers, as directed in the *mandamus* in this case.

Whether the official papers will print the document, or whether the question of compensation will further delay its publication, are questions which, time must determine. The notice, so far as time is concerned, need not appear for ten days yet, as the election is more than twenty days off. It is not safe to predict anything in a matter so uncertain as the issuing of this proclamation. It may appear this morning, or it may not appear at all; and it does not matter a pinch of snuff whether it appears or not.

The proposition by the *Dispatch* to print it gratuitously, if refused by the official organs, does not mend matters a whit, as its publication in that paper would be no more a compliance with the law than if it appeared in the Honolulu *Gazette*. The ordinance requires its publication "in the newspapers authorized to publish city advertisements."

The *Post* gives the draft of a petition which is to be presented to the Court of Common Pleas asking the Court to order and direct that an election for city and ward officers and Aldermen be held on the third Tuesday of February, 1875, and that the persons who were voted for and may claim to be elected for city offices in February, 1874, shall be restrained from exercising official functions under that election. This may be taken as the Democratic programme.

What will be the next step in this very interesting muddle?

VIOLENT DEATHS.

A Fatal Fall—A Tramp Killed by a Railroad Train.

Mr. Michael Neville, a juror in the Common Pleas Court No. 2, while walking down Wylie avenue yesterday morning about ten o'clock, slipped and fell on the sidewalk near Green street, his head striking the stone pavement. When assistance came it was found that the unfortunate man's skull was fractured. He was conveyed to his residence on Wylie avenue, near Devilliers street, where he died about noon. Deceased was an ax polisher by occupation, and leaves a wife and large family of children in indigent circumstances. The Coroner received no notice to hold an inquest, and up to last evening none had been held.

The dead body of an old man was brought to the Coroner's office yesterday afternoon, in an express wagon, and by the direction of Coroner McCallin it was taken to his stables on Fifth avenue. The person who had charge of the body stated that the man had been struck by a train on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, near Glendale. An inquest was held last evening. Wm. Murphy testified that he was engineer on the express train No. 6, and engine No. 329; that yesterday at 11:47 A. M., while coming toward the city, and when a short distance west of Glendale station, he saw a man walking on the track about four hundred feet in advance of his engine; the man was also coming toward the city; there was a heavy freight train, bound westward, approaching at the same time; witness whistled the alarm and applied the air brakes as quickly as possible; the man did not heed the alarm until the train was within fifteen feet of him, when he looked over his shoulder and made a movement to get away on the other portion of the track, at this moment the freight train passed; could not say if it was his or the freight train that struck the man.

Scott Edgar, fireman on the express, testified that it was Murphy's engine that struck the man; it struck him on the left side; witness got off and went back, but by the time he got there the body was lying, it had been placed in the baggage car; the man was dead.

The jury found a verdict of accidental death.

From papers found in his pockets, it appeared that the name of the deceased was Henry Hartman. There were a number of printed slips in English and German, showing that the man was a beggar. He had lost a leg, and one of the papers set forth that he had lost it by an accident on the Peoria Railroad. There were also receipts from the American Express Company, for packages forwarded to John Hartman, at Gilman, Iroquois county, Ill., and at Piper City, Ford county, Ill. He deceased appeared to be about fifty years of age.

HORRIBLE DEATH.

Man Caught in a Fly Wheel of a Rolling Mill and Torn to Pieces.

A terrible accident occurred at Painter's mill, South Side, about eight o'clock last evening, resulting in the frightful mangling and almost instant death of an employee. The unfortunate victim was a heater, named Edward McCormick. He was endeavoring to pull open the door of a furnace with a rake, when the instrument broke or slipped, and McCormick was precipitated into the large and rapidly revolving fly wheel. He was thrown upward against the steam pipe with such violence as to break it, and was completely filled with scalding steam. The man was found lying upon the ground, several feet from the wheel, with his legs broken and his head and body terribly crushed and mangled. He was also frightfully scalded, and in removing his boots the flesh was literally stripped from his feet. He was fatally injured, and died in a few minutes after the accident. The deceased leaves a wife and one child, the latter having been born only last Sunday. A sad case, truly.

Alleged Illicit Distilling.

Mr. Britton, distiller, of Brownsville, was brought before Commissioner McCandless, of the United States District Court, yesterday, on a charge of illicit distilling. The distillery was also seized, a bond in four hundred dollars filed against it by District Attorney Reed. It is alleged that the illicit distilling was carried on in the morning, before the storekeeper arrived at the premises. No arrival or departure. The gorge still holds above the city. Two tugs were engaged during the day in breaking up the ice above Tow Head. The following rates of toll upon the canal, recently established by law, have been made public to-morrow: steamboats ten cents per ton registered under tonnage; model barges same rate; coalboats and other barges eight cents per ton; measured capacity; small boats whose tonnage cannot be taken in account, five dollars each.

MARIETTA, January 26.—River full 5 inches. Weather clear and pleasant. No arrivals or departures.

CAIRO, January 26—Night—Arrived—Smoky City, New Orleans. River 5 feet 5 inches and rising. Weather clear; mercury 34.

VICKSBURG, January 25.—Up—Exporter, Down—Belle Lee and Crescent. Weather warm and rainy. River fell 1 foot 4 inches.

CINCINNATI, January 26.—River 21 feet 6 inches and rising. The steamers in port had steam up all day, expecting the ice to move. The break from above commenced gorging at Portland and now extends to Steubenville, a distance of 13 miles, where there is 18 feet of water and rising. The gorge is said to be very heavy.

LATER—The gorge broke at 12 midnight. The R. R. Hudson and Albion are reported sunk at Labelle landing, this place. The Hudson is nearly a total wreck. Steps were taken in two to prevent the same.

NASHVILLE, January 26.—River still rising; 16 feet 2 inches on the shoals. Weather clear and pleasant. The Eddy ville left for Cairo.

CINCINNATI, January 26.—River about unchanged. The gorge is still firm, but the ice is rotting rapidly and a break-up is soon expected. Weather fair and mild.

NEW ORLEANS, January 26.—No arrivals. or departures. Weather clear and pleasant.

EVANSVILLE, January 25.—Weather clear; mercury 35 to 50. River rising slowly, with 6 feet 2 inches on the shoals. Telegraph Below Port list: Up—Florence Lee, Minneola, George Roberts, Arkansas Belle, Mitchell, Thomas Sherlock, Charles Morgan and Dick Johnson. Down—Susie Silver and Arkansas Belle. The Minneola and Sherlock go back from here. Business lively. The Susie Silver went out drawing 5½ feet.

ADDITIONAL MARKETS.

COTTON MARKETS.

New York.

NEW YORK, January 26.—Cotton quiet at 15½ @16c. Futures closed quiet and firm; sales of 23,000 bales, as follows: January, 15 3-16; February, 15 3-16@15 11-32c; March, 15 11-32c; April, 15 25-32@15 13-16c; May, 15 29-32c; June, 16 7-16c; July, 16 21-32@16 11-16c; August, 16¾@16 29-32c.

Mobile.

MOBILE, January 26.—Market steady, demand good and offerings light; middling 14¾c; low middling 14c; good ordinary 13¾c. Net receipts 587 bales. Exports—coastwise, 4 bales. Sales 1,000 bales.

Charleston.

CHARLESTON, January 26.—Market firmer but quiet; middling 15 5-16@15c; low middling 14¾@14¾c; good ordinary 13¾c. Net receipts 1,686 bales. Sales 1,000 bales. Stock 26,467 bales.

Savannah.

SAVANNAH, January 26.—Market steadier and nominally unchanged; middling 14¾c. Net receipts 1,870 bales. Exports—coastwise, 291 bales. Sales 1,870 bales.

Galveston.

GALVESTON, January 26.—Market dull and easy; middling 14¾c; low middling 14¼c; good ordinary 13¾c. Net receipts 1,577 bales; gross 1,666 bales. Exports—coastwise 8 bales. Sales 1,050 bales.

Chicago.

CHICAGO, January 26.—Cattle—Receipts 3,000 head, mostly common and medium grades, for which the market is dull. Prices weak; good to extra steers and fat cows, at $5 00@5 25; fair to good do, $4 00@4 75; butchers' stock $3 00@4 25; stockers $2 75@3 75. Shipments 1,300 head.

Hogs—Receipts 18,000 head. Market active and firm and 10c higher; range $5 00@7 25 for inferior to extra; shipping grades selling mostly at $6 80@6 75, packers $6 60@7 00. Shipments 8,6?5 head.

Sheep—Receipts 1,000 head. Market active and firm at $4 00@5 50 for common to choice. Shipments 200 head.

NEW ORLEANS.

Testimony of Ex-Governor Wells Before the Congressional Committee.

NEW ORLEANS, January 26.—Ex-Governor Wells was before the Congressional Committee to-day and testified as to the action of the Returning Board. He submitted the Returning Board's report to the Legislature, about seventy foolscap pages, as his statement. He explained his not appearing before the Sub-Committee, that he was not subpœnaed, received no notice whatever about the committee having been, except through the newspapers, and didn't think they would leave so soon; he intended going to Washington to testify, but heard another committee was coming, and so did not go.

Governor Wells testified as follows: All the polls in Rapides were thrown out on my evidence. We had no other. I made my affidavit on the 14th of December. I filed these statements and mentioned these facts to members of the Board.

Mr. Hoar asked if counsel had access to that affidavit before filing their briefs.

Governor Wells said he thought they did.

Mr. Hoar—Was it filed before going into secret session?

Mr. Wells—Just before. Counsel would have had time to examine that affidavit if he had remained long enough to have reached that parish. He left about the time if he had wished it. There was no protest by the election officers in Rapides, because it was worth a man's life to do so. Judge Manning, one of the wealthiest Leaguers in the country, made up the Supervisor's statement. The Sheriff of the parish, a White Leaguer, held on till the fifth of December. Then there was another Sheriff, afterwards recorded as a McHenry man.

Mr. Marshall asked if Governor Wells had been assaulted in Rapides.

Governor Wells—I was not assaulted, but my life was threatened. I received a letter from my son-in-law. [The letter was read. It advised the governor to beware, that he would be killed by stealth, and as it was in his discharge of duty, his friends would die with him in protecting him. He said: I assume an responsibility, but my enemies dare not face me. I am not afraid. I could not speak in the parish, and I would have been killed. The colored people were my only friends. During the war, when I was driven out for my opinions, they watched over me and cared for me. I heard no more threats. I am sixty-seven years old; was born in Rapides; was a Whig before the war. I voted for Douglas to avert a struggle. I was a Sheriff before I was a Federal. After leaving the war. I had to sleep in the woods. During the war I was called a Jayhawker. I am proud of the name. I would rather be a jayhawker than a traitor. When I was Governor after the war, and was removed in 1867 by Gen. Sheridan. I had one hundred and twenty-seven slaves when the war broke out. I had two fine plantations, but am very poor now. I have acquired no property since the war, could not pay my debts, but may be able to do so if I live long enough. The Democrats treated me very well until the White League was organized. I proposed an amendment to the constitution in my message as Governor, which produced political differences. The ill feeling toward me has only sprung up since the Kellogg-McHenry difficulty.

ADDITIONAL RIVER DISPATCHES.

Oil City.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

OIL CITY, PA., January 26, 1875.

River still closed. No indications of a break-up.

LOUISVILLE, January 26.—River rising with 6 feet 4 inches in the canal. No arrivals or departures. The gorge still holds above the city. Two tugs were engaged during the day in breaking up the ice above Tow Head. The following rates of toll upon the canal, recently established by law, have been made public to-morrow: steamboats ten cents per ton registered under tonnage; model barges same rate; coalboats and other barges eight cents per ton, measured capacity; small boats whose tonnage cannot be taken in account, five dollars each.

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